action

THE BIG O

created by Hajime Yatate
story and art by Hitoshi Ariga

Vol. 6

VIZ Graphic Novel

$9.95 USA/$13.95 CAN

In a world where memories are a valuable commodity, Roger Smith must outplay a host of disreputable characters all jockeying for the biggest prize of all: Paradigm City!

Ironically, the savvy negotiator has never been too concerned about his own forgotten past. The future, he reasons, is all that matters.

But something unexpected happens to make him change his mind. On the day Dorothy Wayneright disappears, Roger realizes that both the past and the future are indeed a very important part of his life.

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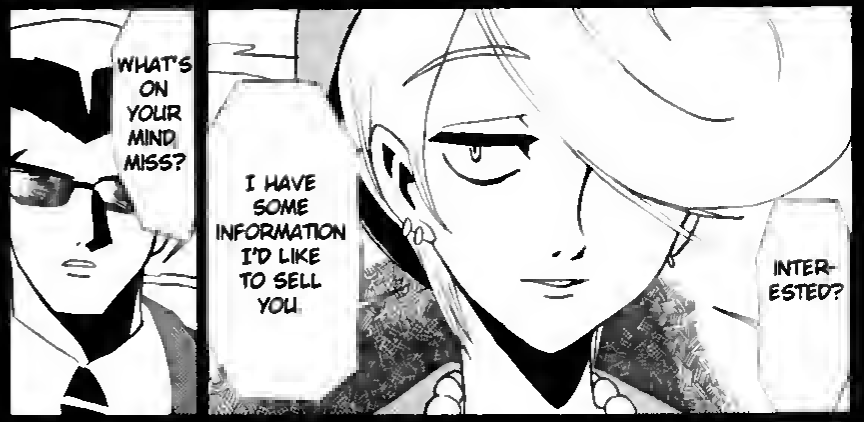
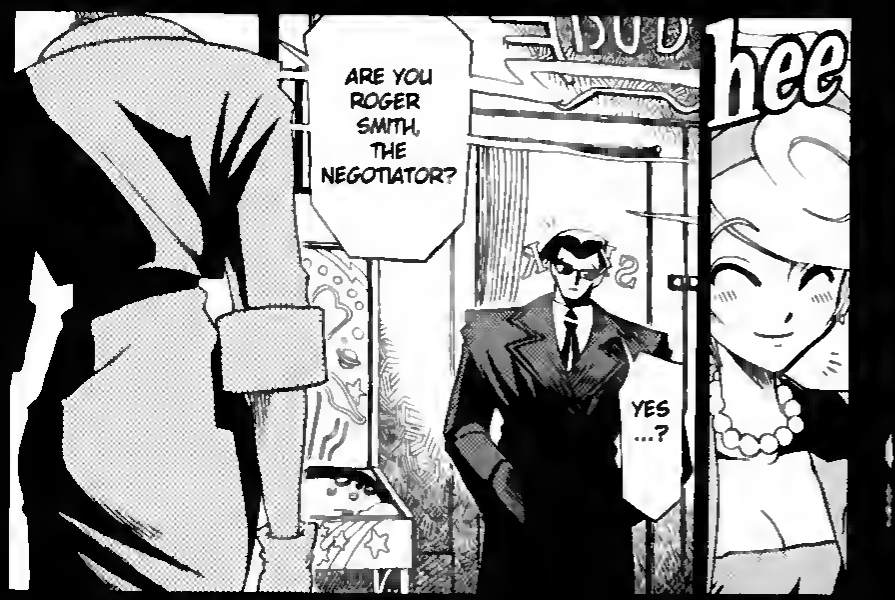
RATED A FOR ALL AGES

action

VIZ

JUST LIKE YOU SAID.
HERE YOU GO.


WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND, MISS?
I HAVE SOME INFORMATION I'D LIKE TO SELL YOU.
INTER-ESTED?


ARE YOU ROGER SMITH, THE NEGOTIATOR?
YES ...?

...

I'LL LISTEN.

SO WHAT ARE YOU SELLING?

THE OTHER DAY, WE RECEIVED A WEIRD REQUEST ...

WEIRD ?

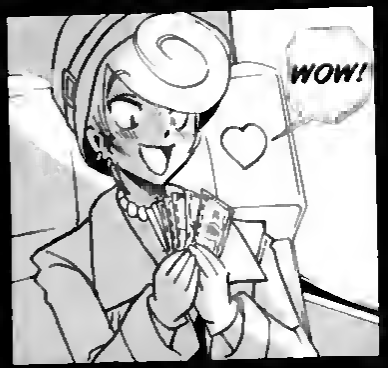
THE CLIENT WAS A REAL MINX...

AND THIS CARGO WAS...

I'VE SAID ENOUGH. I COULD GET IN BIG TROUBLE FOR WHAT I'VE TOLD YOU ALREADY.
I JUST WANTED TO KICK A LITTLE SAND IN HER FACE.
DROP ME OFF HERE, PLEASE.

NOW, ABOUT MY FEE.

...


WOW!

ER, THERE'S SOMETHING I WANT TO ASK YOU.
GO ON.
WHAT WOULD YOU DO...
IF SOMEONE YOU CARE ABOUT DISAP-PEARS?
I'D HAVE TO KNOW THE WHOLE STORY, BUT...
...

IT ALWAYS HELPS TO KNOW THAT SOMEONE'S HOPING YOU'LL COME BACK, I SUPPOSE.
I MIGHT FIND HIM FOR YOU. MY RATES ARE REASON-ABLE.
...
NO.
HE'LL COME BACK--HE ALWAYS HAS BEFORE.
SOME-HOW, I JUST KNOW HE'LL BE BACK.
SUIT YOUR-SELF.
BYE, MR. NEGO-TIATOR.
THANKS FOR THE LIFT.

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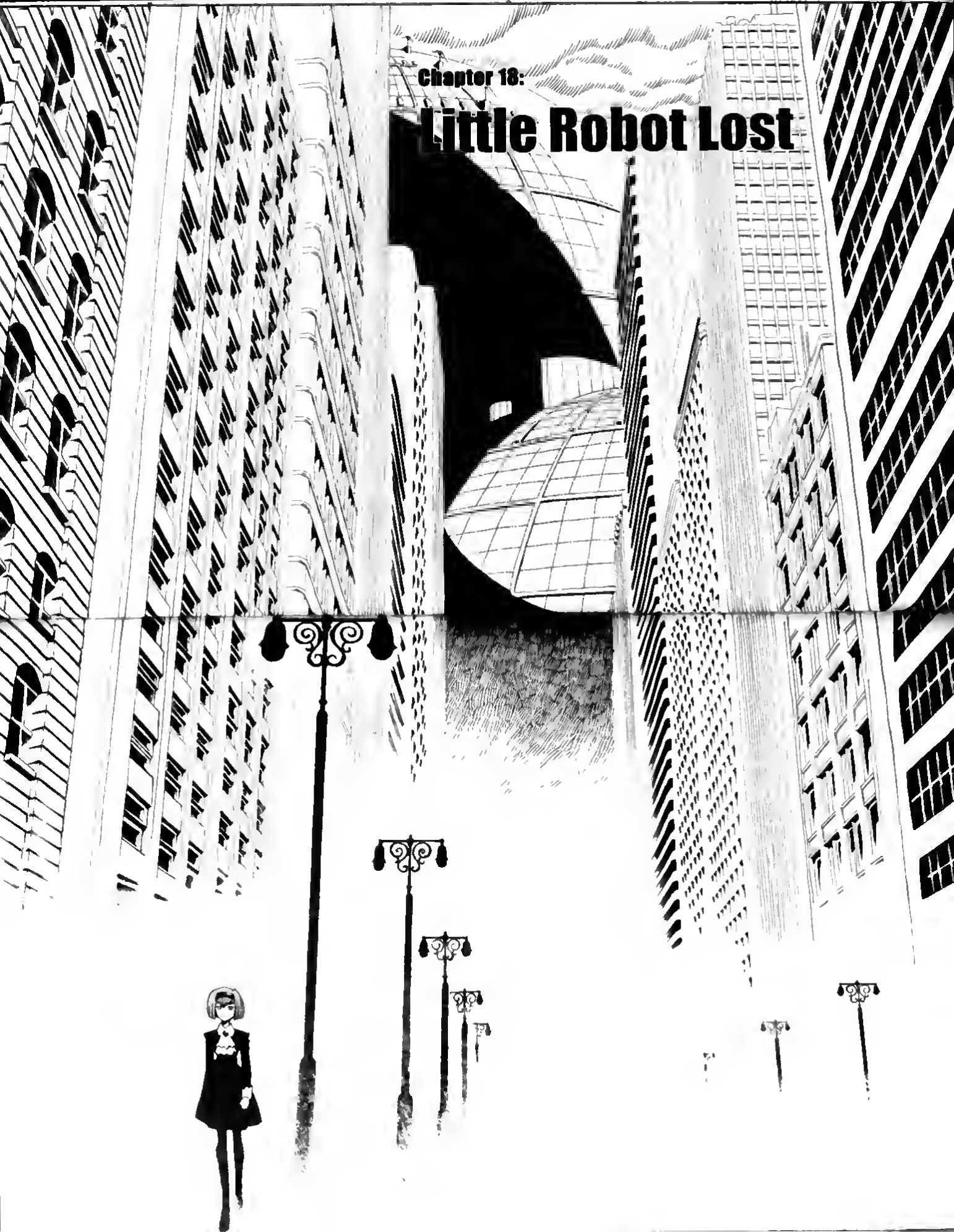
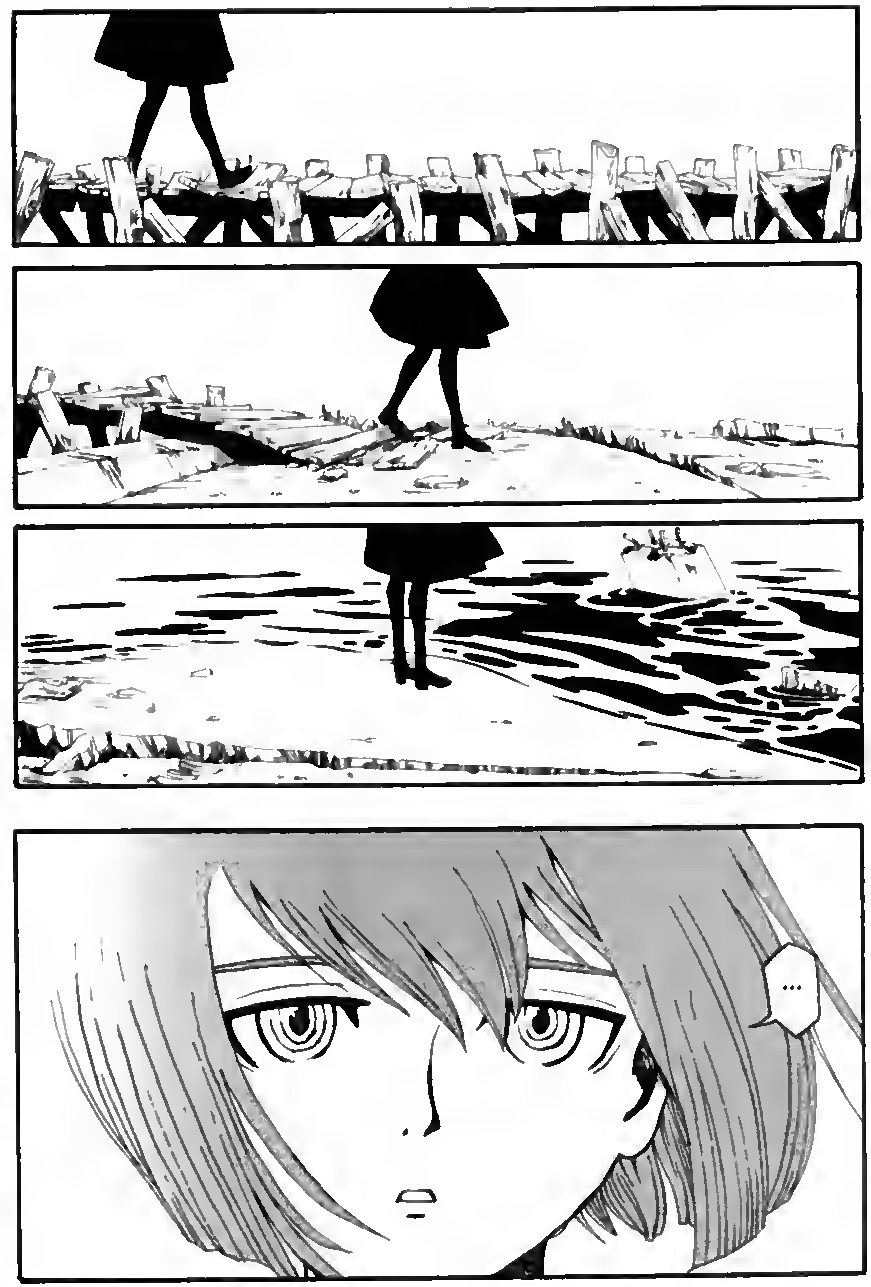
THE ビッグオー

UEJBIGO SHINJA

...WE CAN PUT ALL THE PIECES TOGETHER AGAIN...
BUT IT'S NOTHING WITHOUT A HEART.
QUITE TRUE, SIR.
AS AN ANGEL...
YOU MUST BE USED TO SHOOTING AT THE HEART?
CUPID WAS A GOD, NOT AN ANGEL, SIR.


Chapter 18:
Little Robot Lost

SLOSH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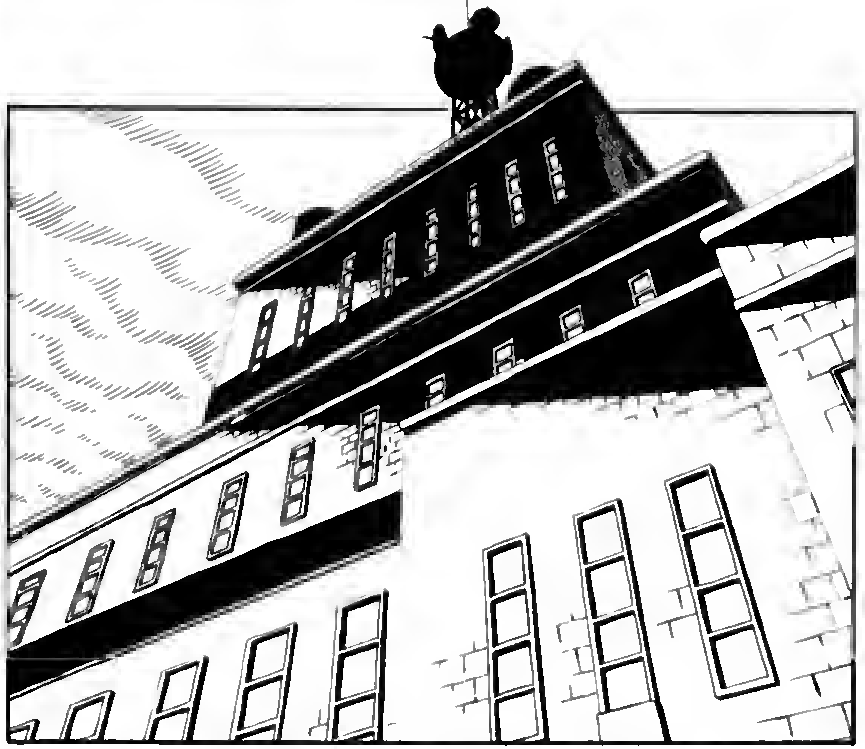
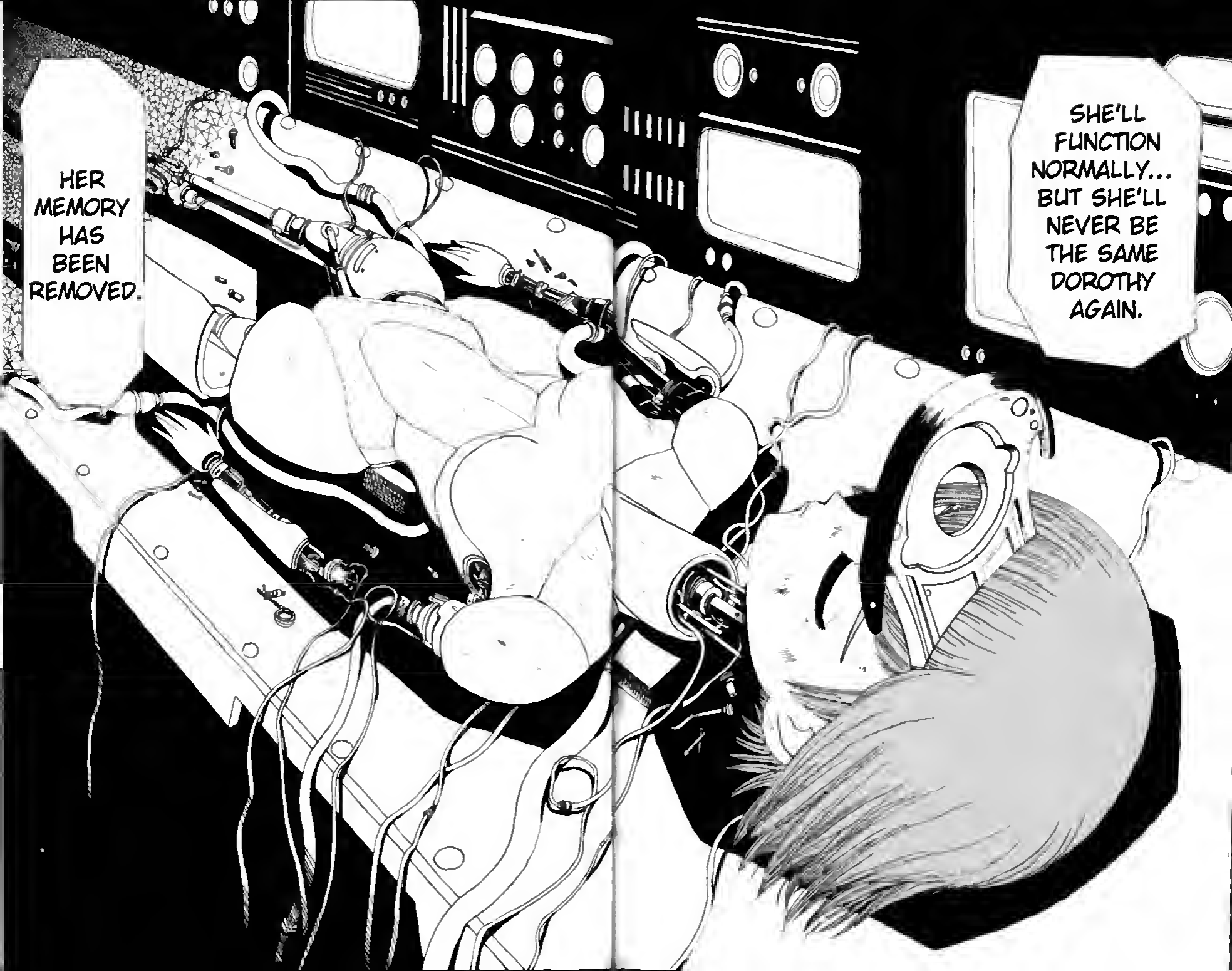
SLOSH

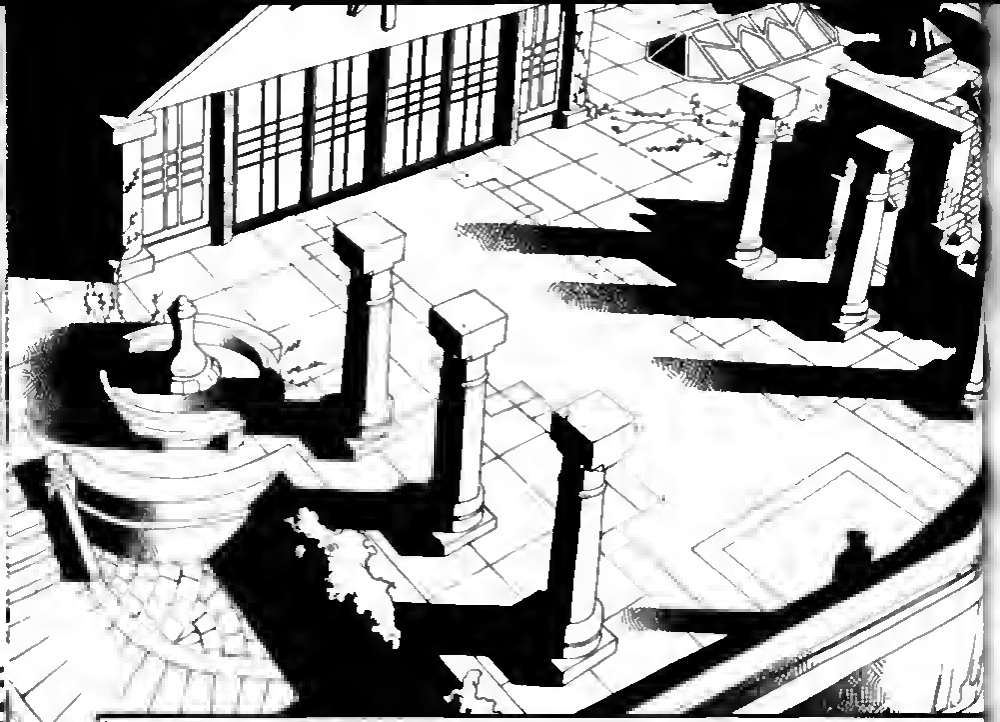


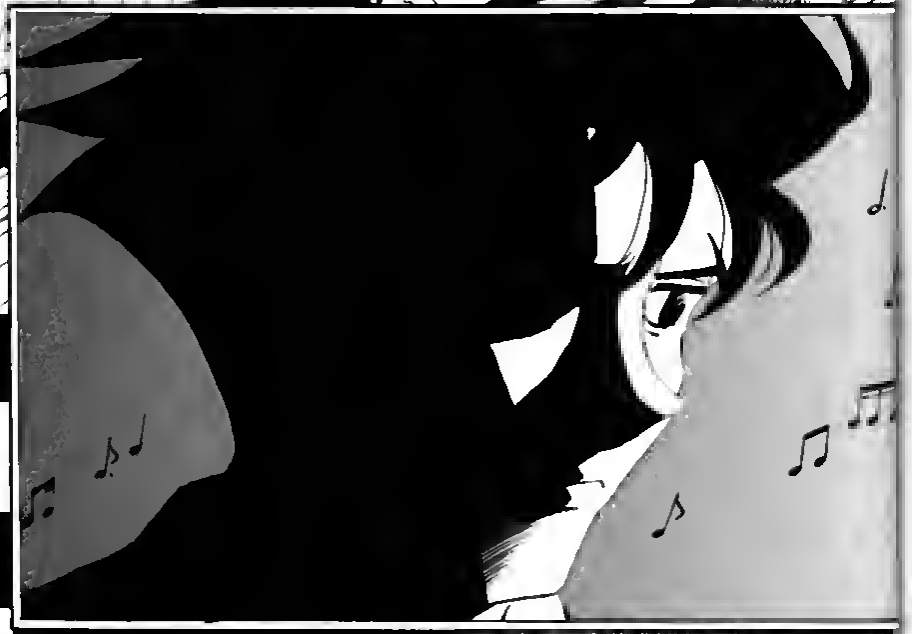
WE GOT A CALL FROM A FISHERMAN IN PARADIGM HARBOR.
...HUH?

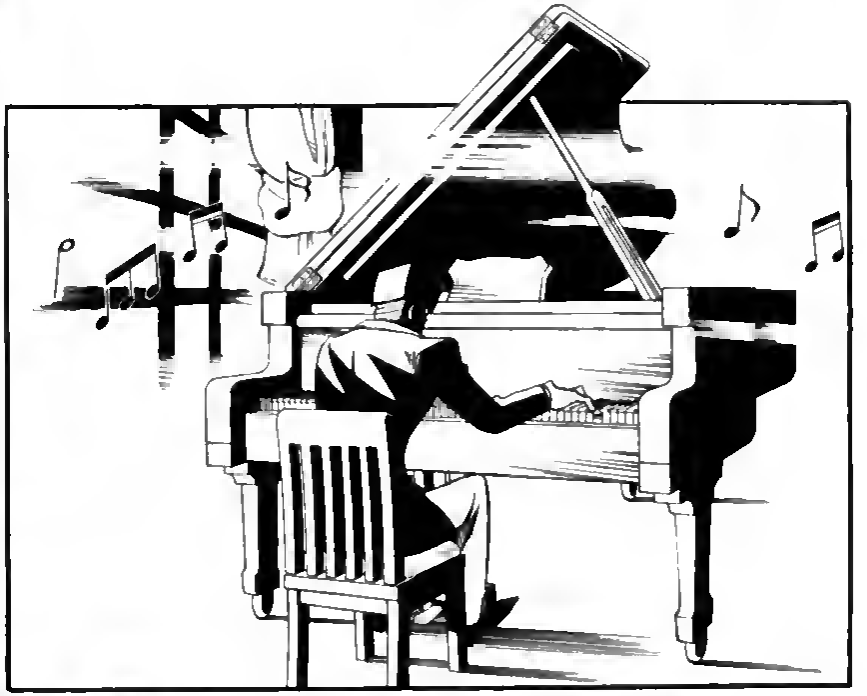
WHAT DO YOU THINK, NORMAN?
WELL...
I BELIEVE THERE WERE ENOUGH SALVAGEABLE PARTS...
I CAN REPAIR HER WITH THE EQUIPMENT WE HAVE.
SHE'LL BE ALMOST AS GOOD AS NEW.
...

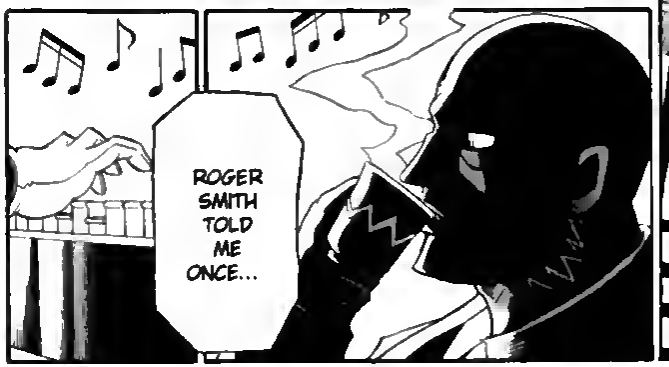
Phew
NORMAN, YOU'RE A GENIUS.
GET STARTED IMMEDIATELY.
... NORMAN?
THERE IS, HOWEVER, ONE PROBLEM.


HER MEMORY HAS BEEN REMOVED.
SHE'LL FUNCTION NORMALLY... BUT SHE'LL NEVER BE THE SAME DOROTHY AGAIN.



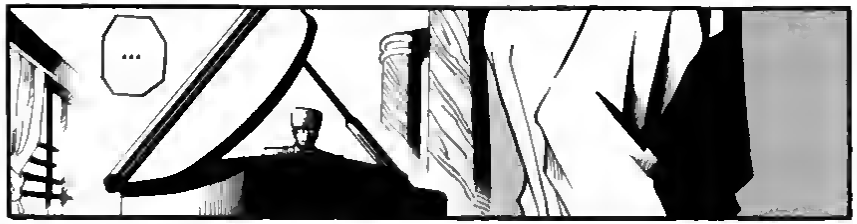





ROGER SMITH TOLD ME ONCE...

THAT MEMORIES...
SOMETIMES RETURN OUT OF NOWHERE, LIKE A LONG-FORGOTTEN DREAM...
IS THIS PIECE ...
ONE THAT YOU TAUGHT HER, INSTRO?

YES.
I'M NO EXPERT ON MUSIC, BUT...
WHEN I LISTEN TO YOU PLAY, I FEEL STRANGELY NOSTALGIC...
AS THOUGH I MIGHT REMEMBER SOME LONG-FORGOTTEN MEMORY, MYSELF...
THAT'S VERY KIND OF YOU...
MAJOR DASTUN.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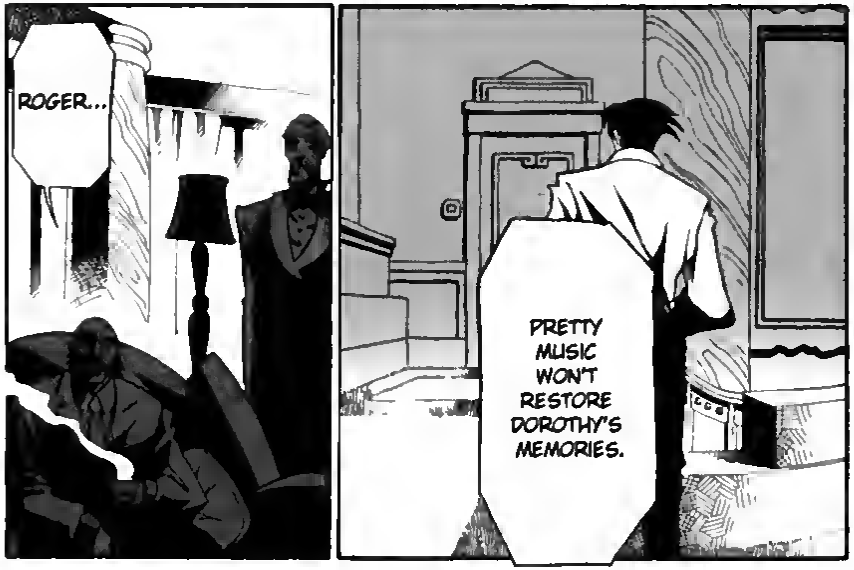
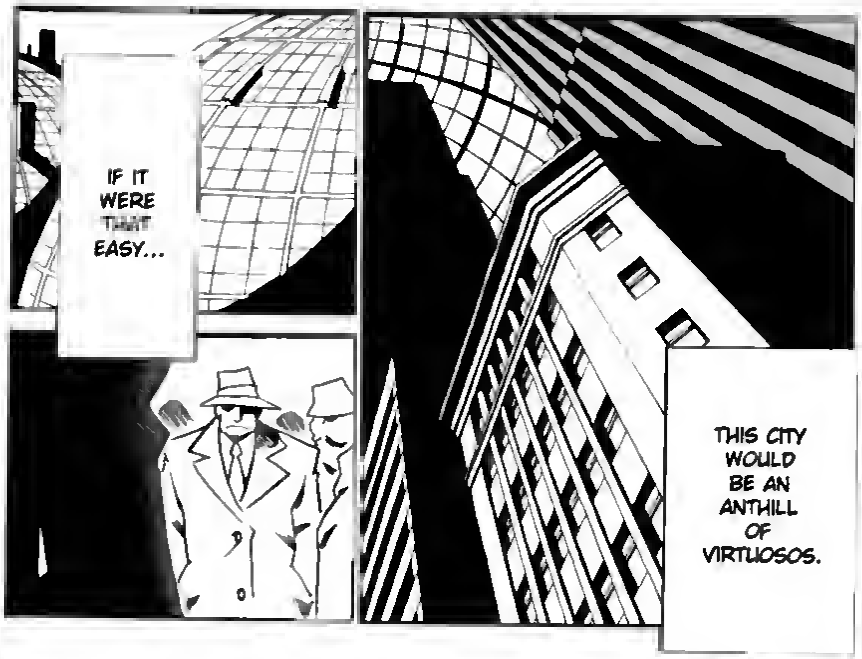
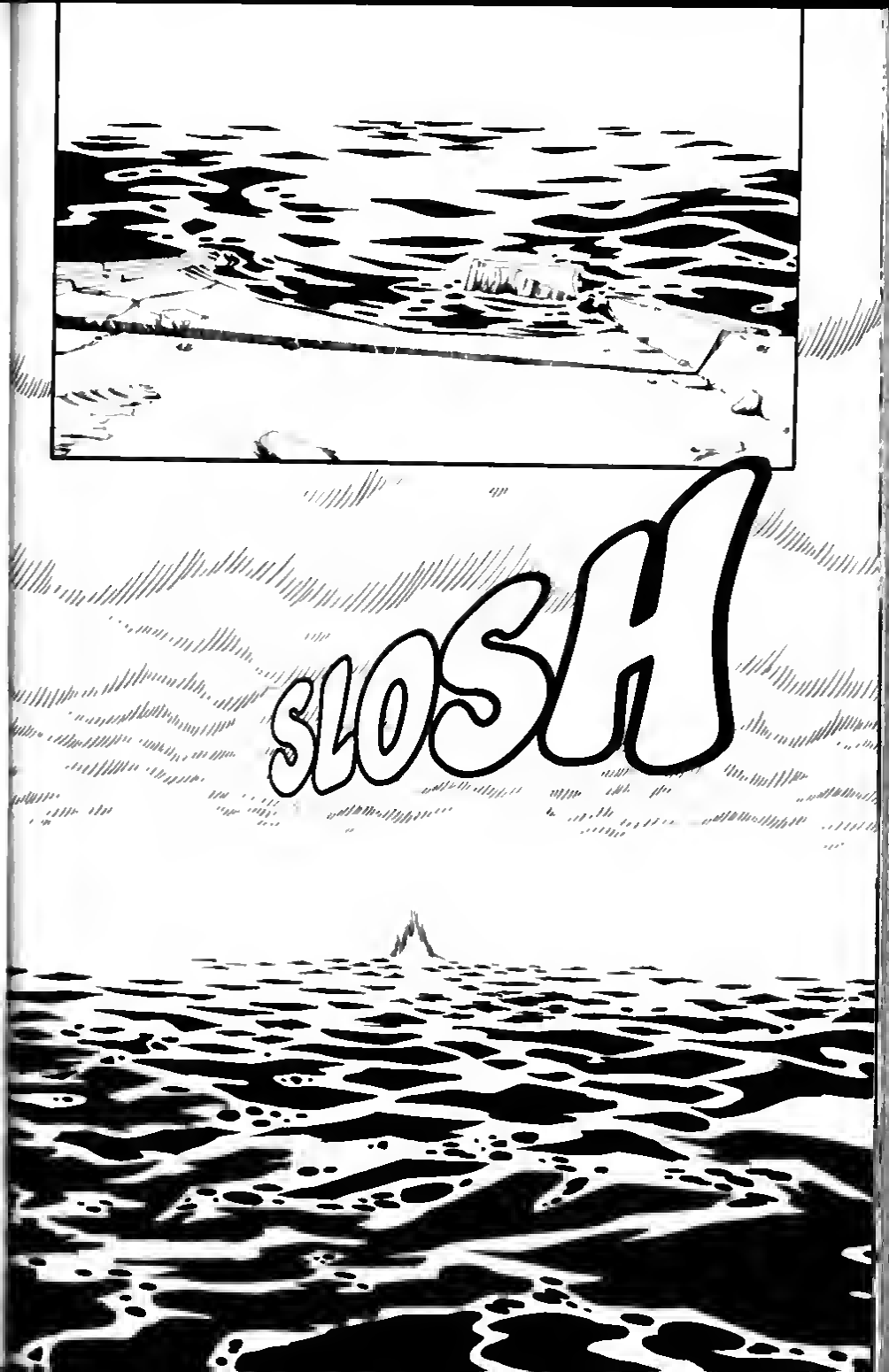

ROGER...
PRETTY MUSIC WON'T RESTORE DOROTHY'S MEMORIES.

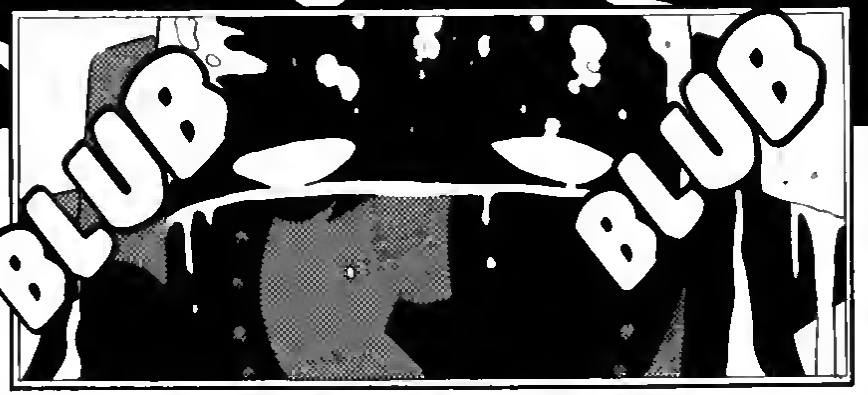
THAT ONLY HAPPENS IN FAIRY TALES.

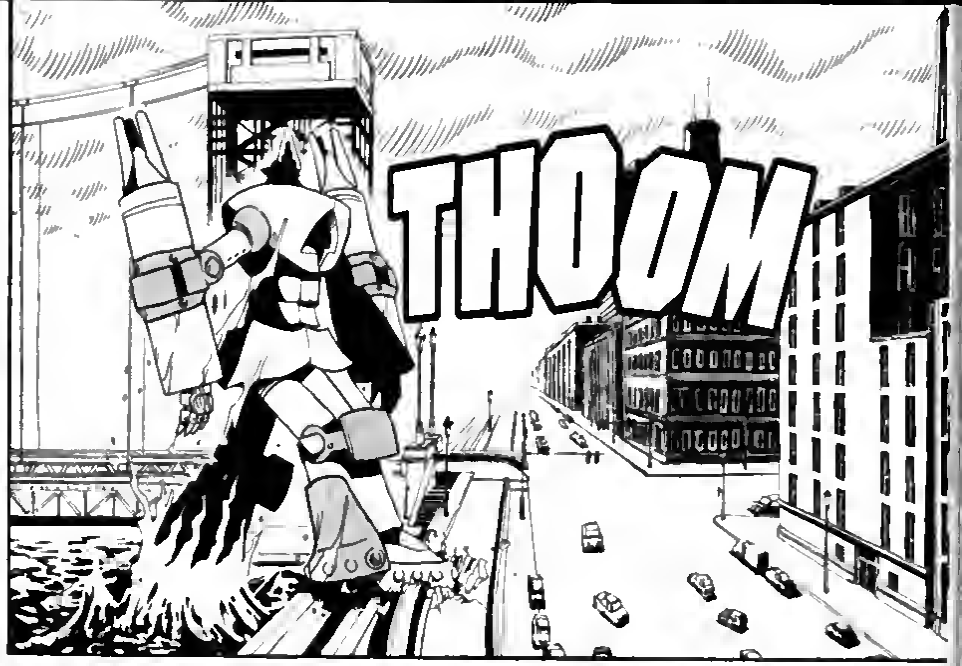

IF IT WERE THAT EASY...
THIS CITY WOULD BE AN ANTHILL OF VIRTUOSOS.

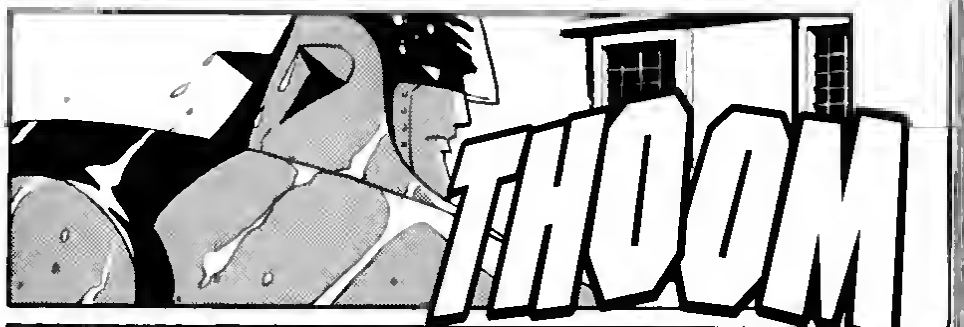
"I GUESS EVEN YOU CAN GET LONESOME."

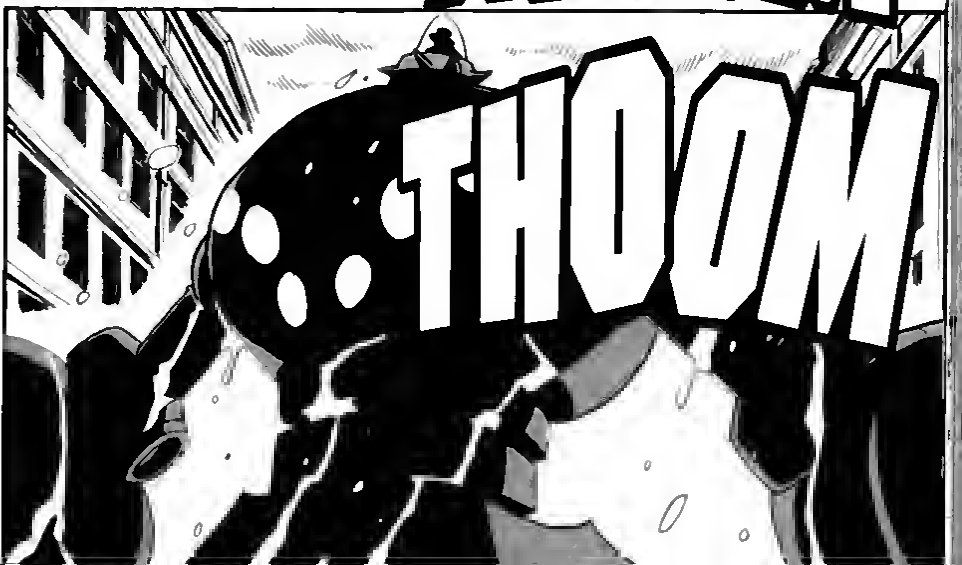

SLOSH

SPLASH SLOSH


BLUB
BLUB


THOOM


THOOM


THOOM

KR
ASH

BOOM
A BLUE MEGA-DEUS...
THE THREATS TO THE CITY INCREASE BY THE DAY...
WHEN WILL THE CITY GIVE US BETTER FIREPOWER?
NEVER. NOT AS LONG AS HE'S CALLING THE SHOTS...

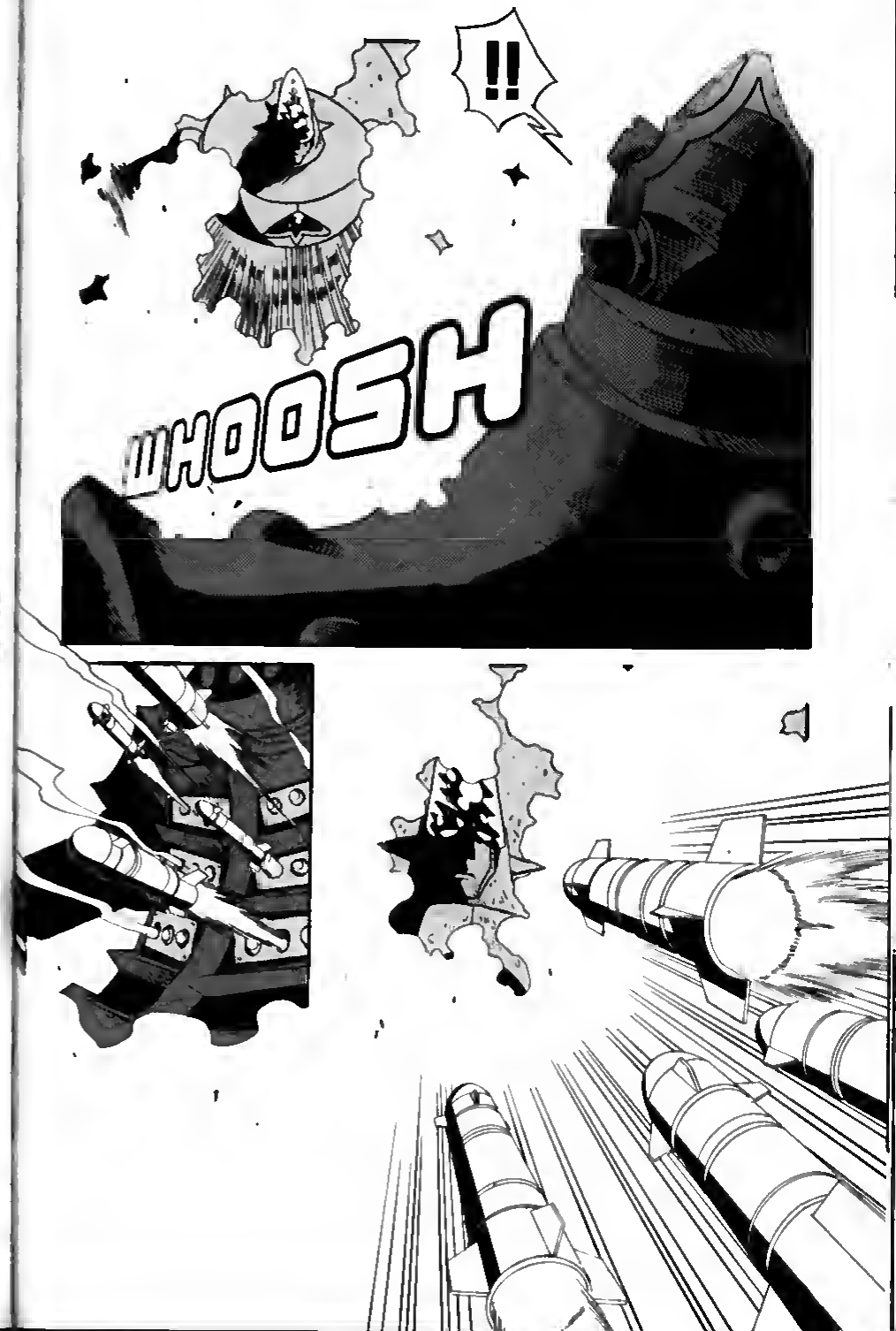
THERE YOU ARE, MR. NEGOTI-ATOR.

KLANG

WRR
ROAR
WHAM

AKAKAKAKAK

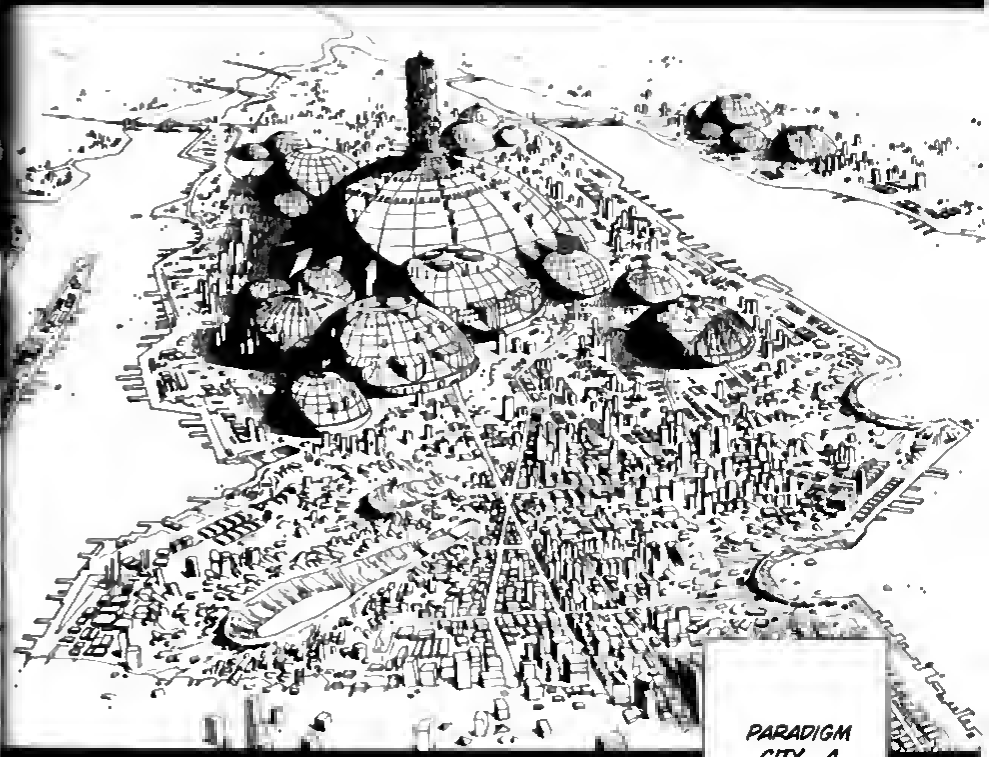
KRANG
BOOM
KLANG
CH-CHK
BLUB
BLUB
BLUB
BLUB
BLUB
shoom


!!
WHOOSH

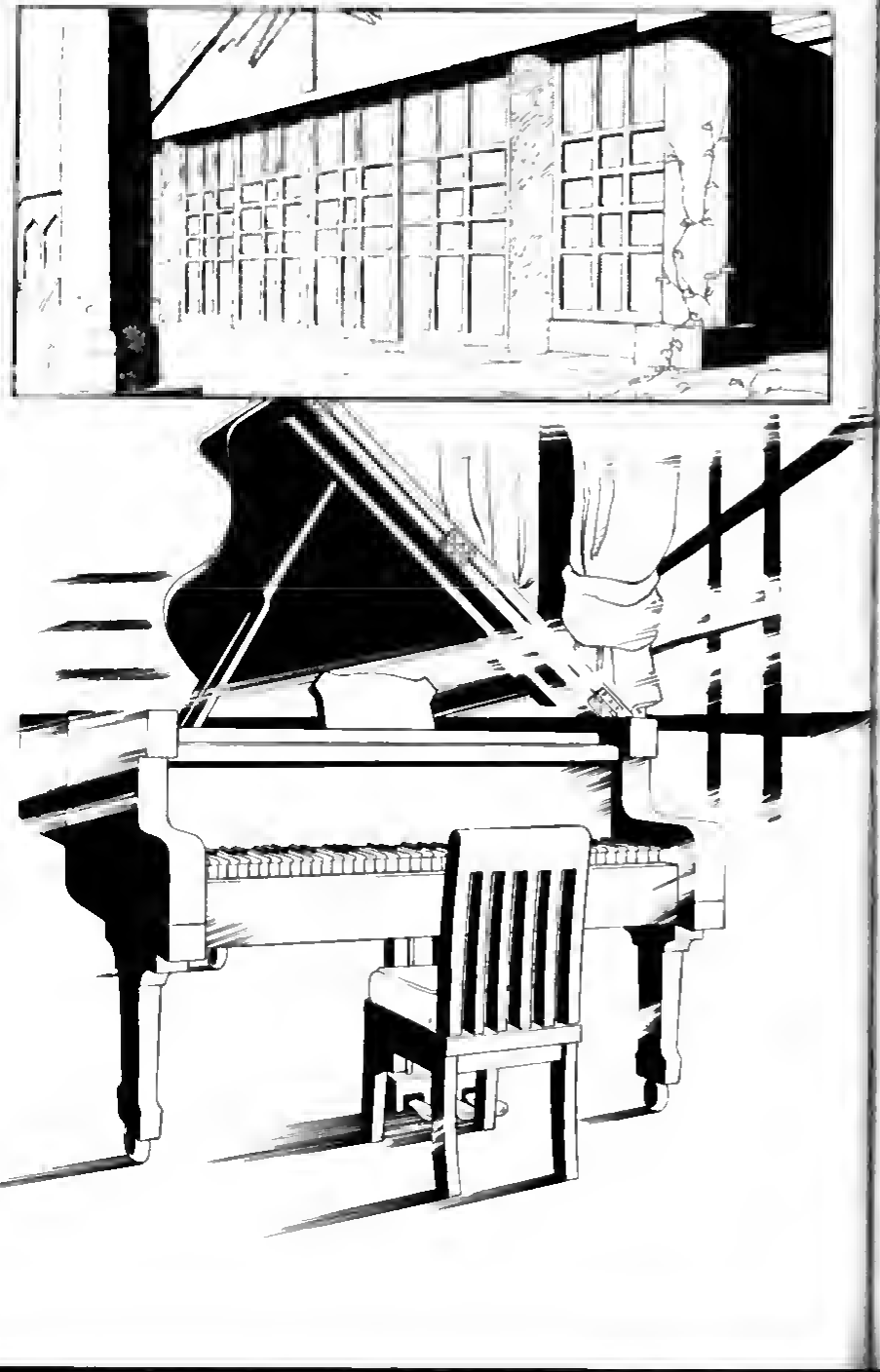
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM

KANG
KOOSH

EXCELLENT...
...

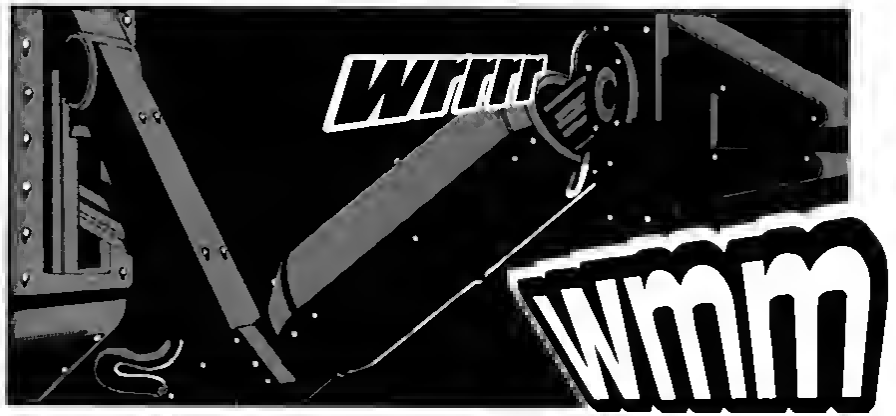


PARADIGM CITY...A CITY IN SEARCH OF ITS PAST...



plink

THE ビッグオー



THE ビッグオー

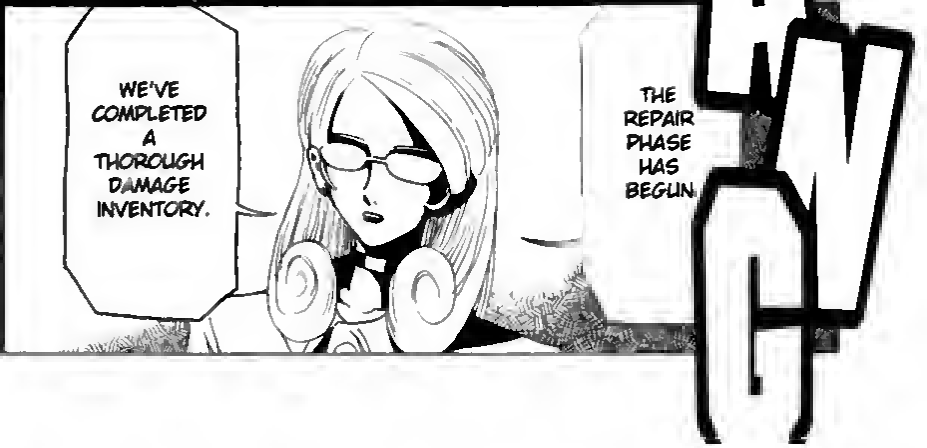
WHAT COMES TO MIND WHEN YOU HEAR THE WORD "MEMORY"?
WHOOM WHOOM WHOOM

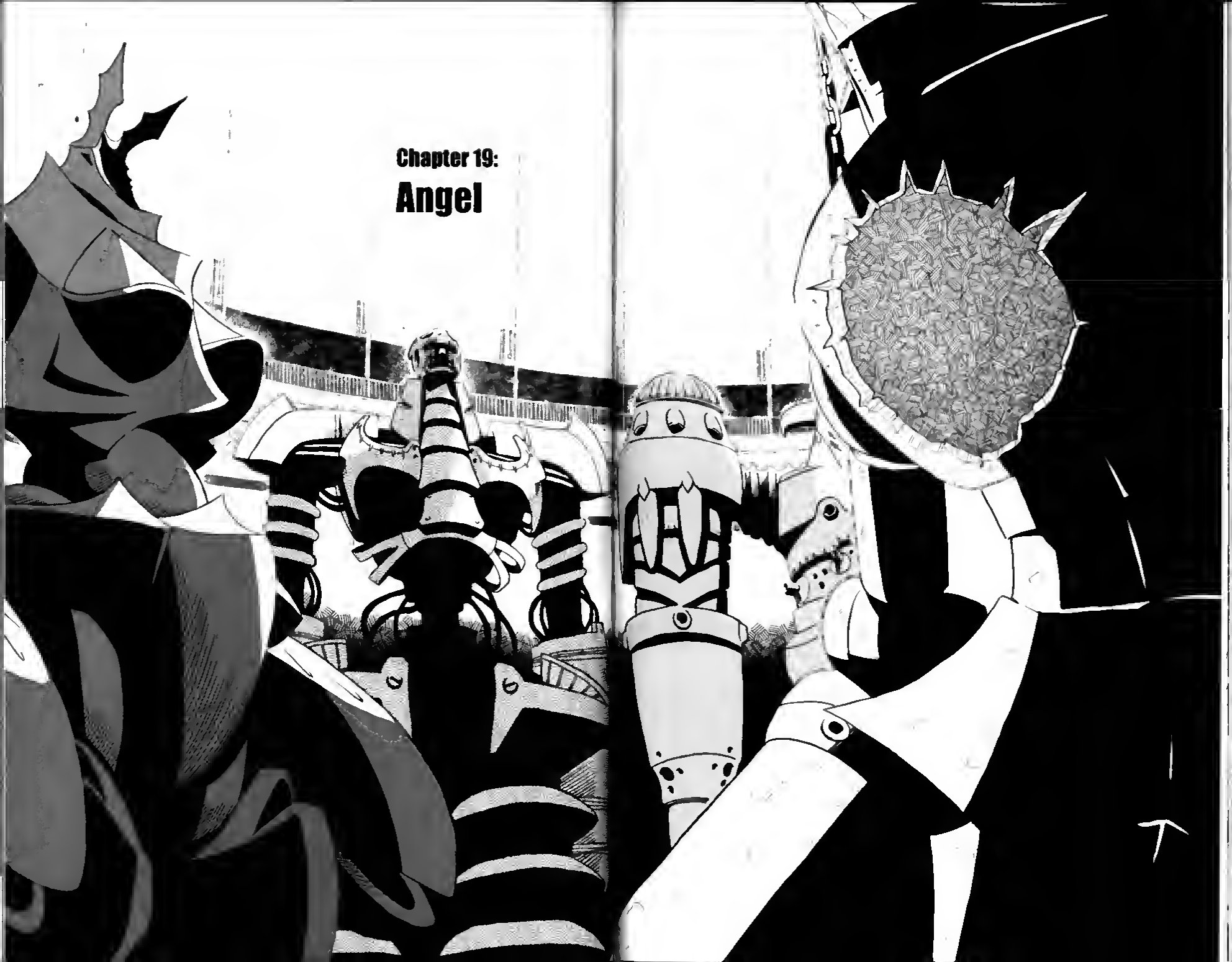
MOMENTS FROM A PERSON'S LIFE, WISDOM PASSED ON TO POSTERITY...
wnnn wnnn
ALL THAT WAS LOST 40 YEARS AGO...

YES, PEOPLE THINK OF THEM AS "LOST."
WHOOMWHOOM

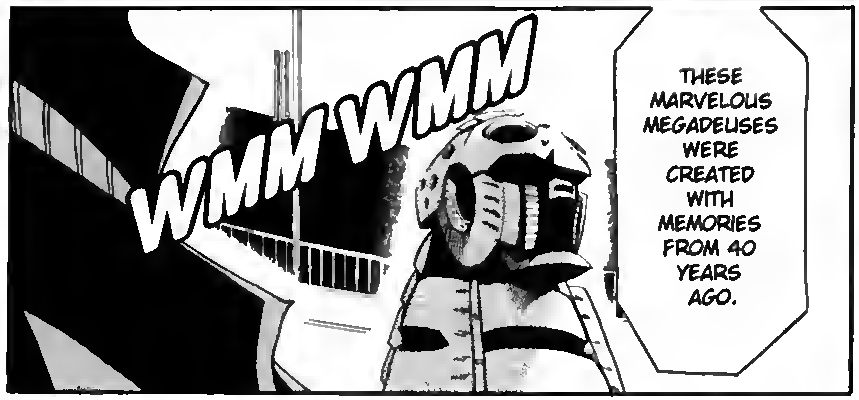
AND OUR BIG FRIEND FROM THE SEA--HOW IS HE?
wip
SO-SO...

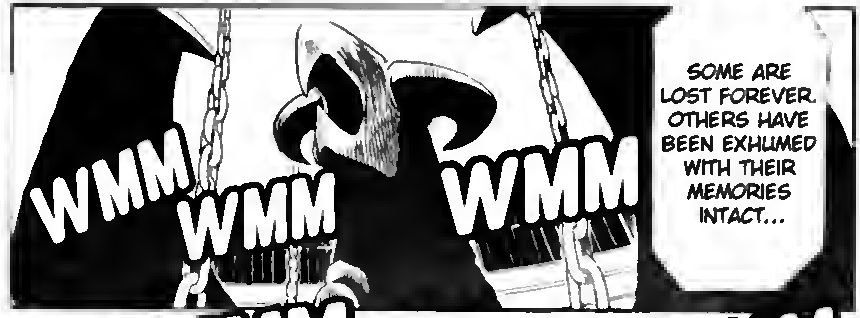
WMMM WMMM WMMM


WE'VE COMPLETED A THOROUGH DAMAGE INVENTORY.
THE REPAIR PHASE HAS BEGUN.

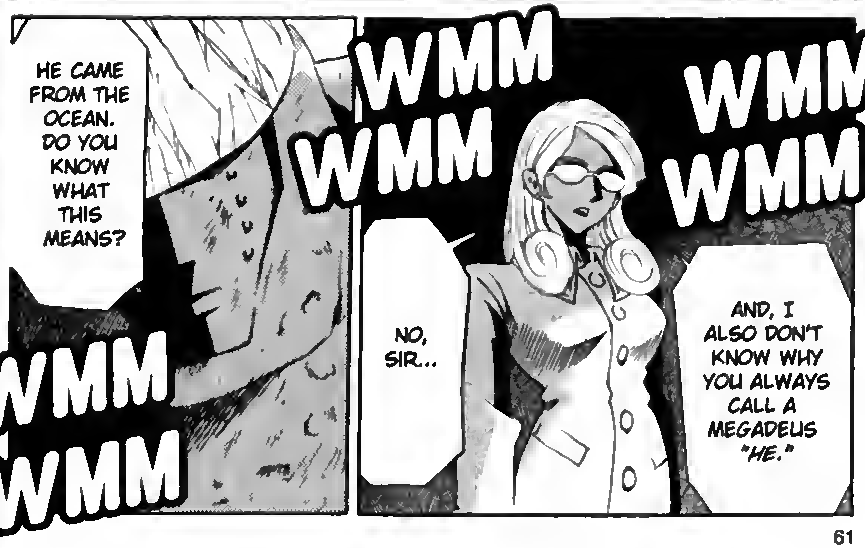

Chapter 19:
Angel

EXCEL-
LENT...
WMM
WMM
WMM
WMM

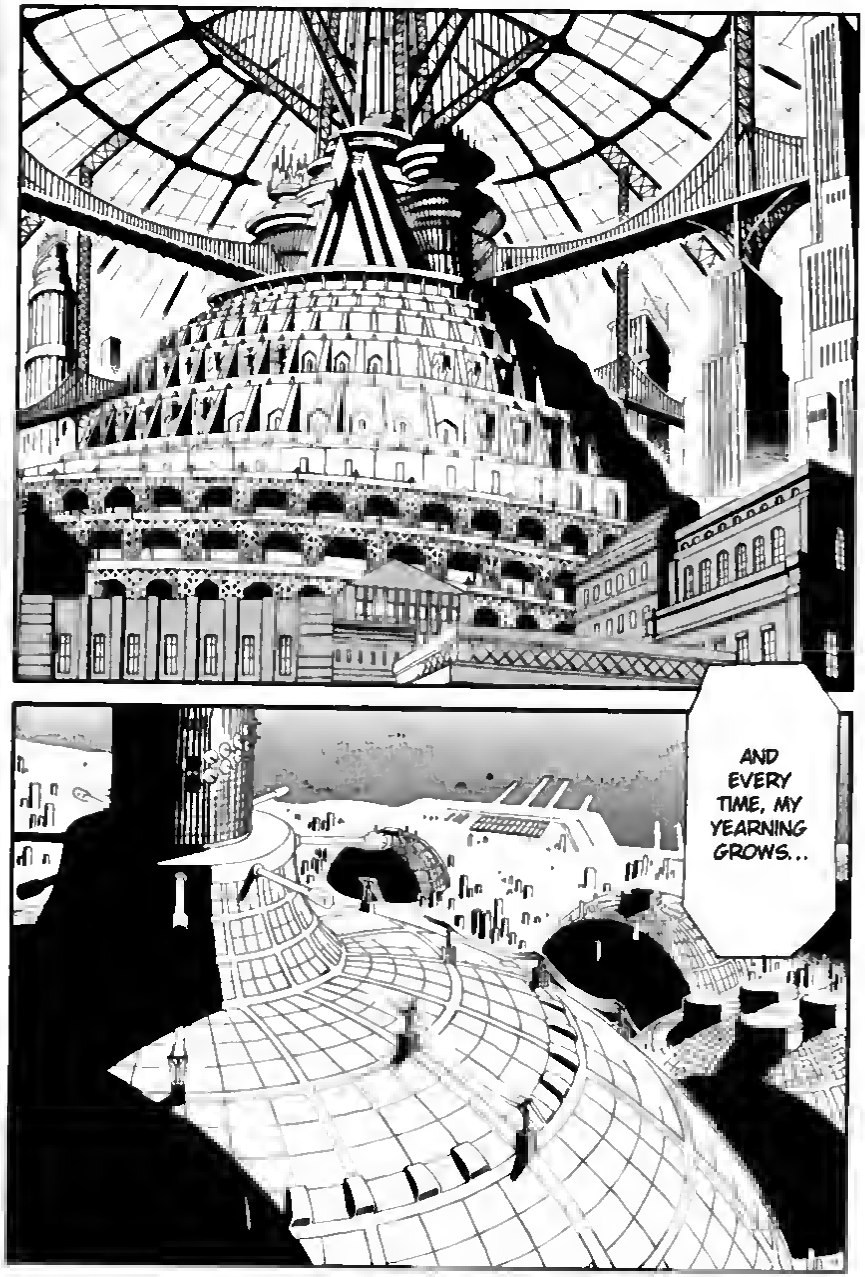

WMM WMM
THESE MARVELOUS MEGADEUSES WERE CREATED WITH MEMORIES FROM 40 YEARS AGO.


WMM
WMM
WMM
SOME ARE LOST FOREVER. OTHERS HAVE BEEN EXHUMED WITH THEIR MEMORIES INTACT...

WMM
NOT LOST, BUT MERELY WAITING.
AND THERE ARE SO MANY MEMORIES IN THIS CITY THAT HAVE YET TO BE RECOVERED...
WMM
WMM
WMM
THE UNKNOWN HAS ALWAYS ATTRACTED ME.

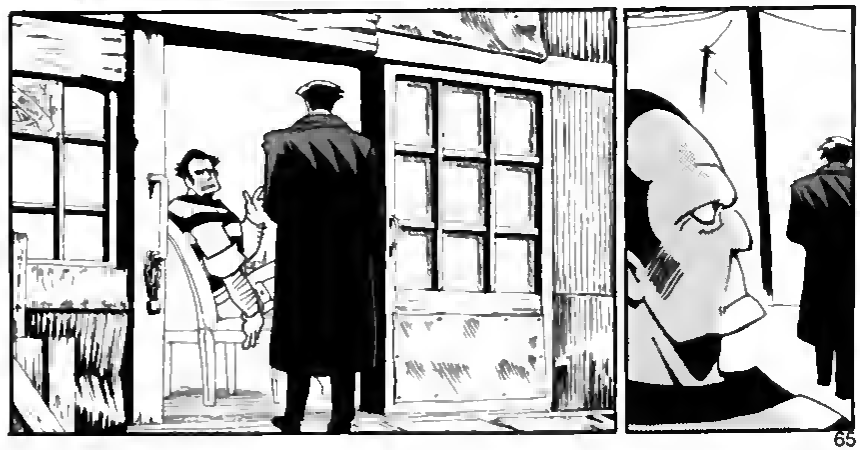

HE CAME FROM THE OCEAN. DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS MEANS?
WMM
WMM
WMM
WMM
WMM
WMM
NO, SIR...
AND, I ALSO DON'T KNOW WHY YOU ALWAYS CALL A MEGADEUS "HE."

IT FEELS RIGHT TO ME.
WMM WMM
IN ANY CASE, HE CAME FROM THE OCEAN.
WMM WMM WMM
FROM OUTSIDE THE CITY.
WMM WMM
AND HE'S NOT THE FIRST.
WMM WMM WMM WMM WMM WMM


AND EVERY TIME, MY YEARNING GROWS..

FOR THE UNKNOWN LAND OUTSIDE PARADIGM CITY.

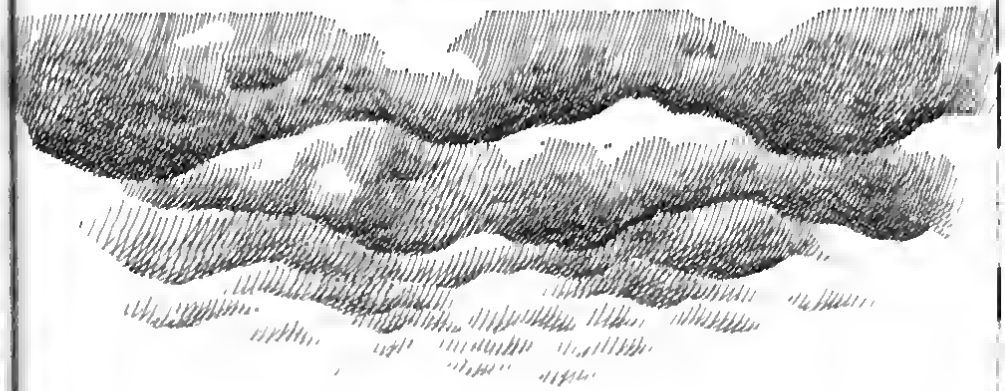
slosh



R. DOROTHY WAYNERIGHT...
I DON'T KNOW WHY SHE WAS WALKING AROUND THE CITY ALONE THAT MORNING.

A HUMAN CAN'T FATHOM AN ANDROID'S MOTIVES...

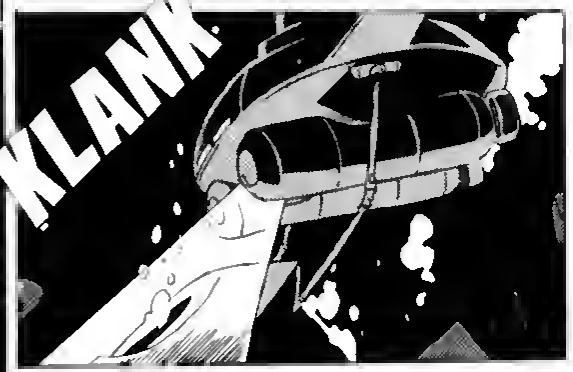
ANY MORE THAN A MACHINE CAN REALLY KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO BE HUMAN...

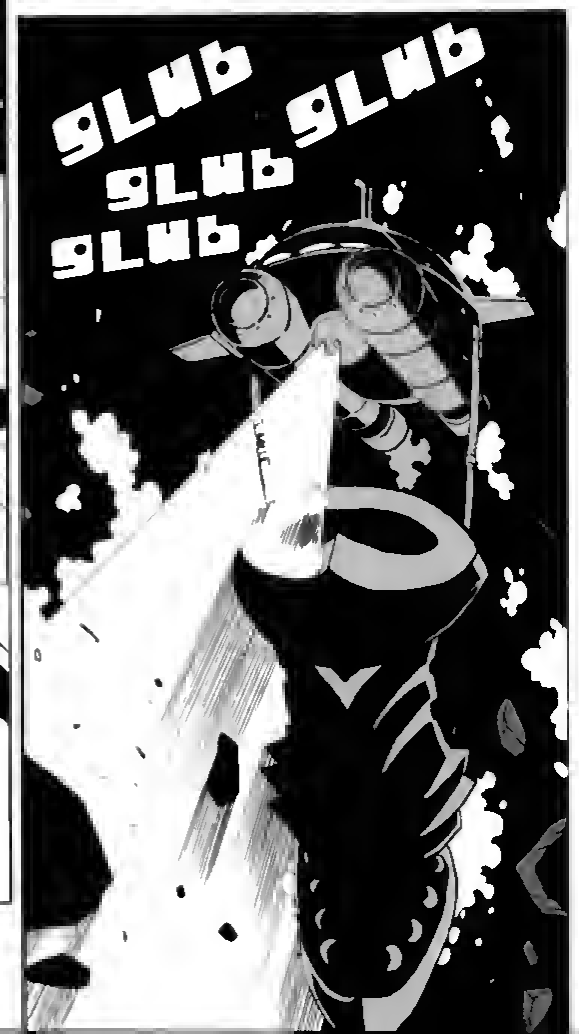


slosh

GLUB
GLUB
GLUB

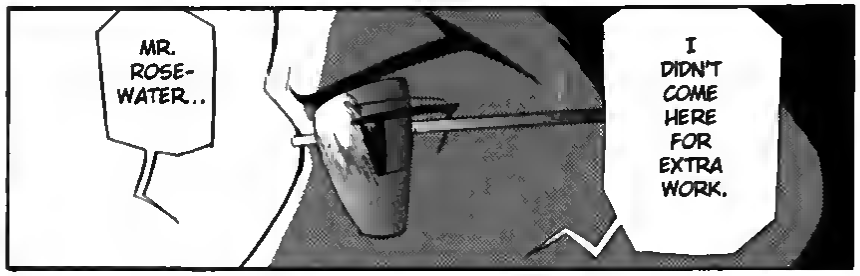
BOUM

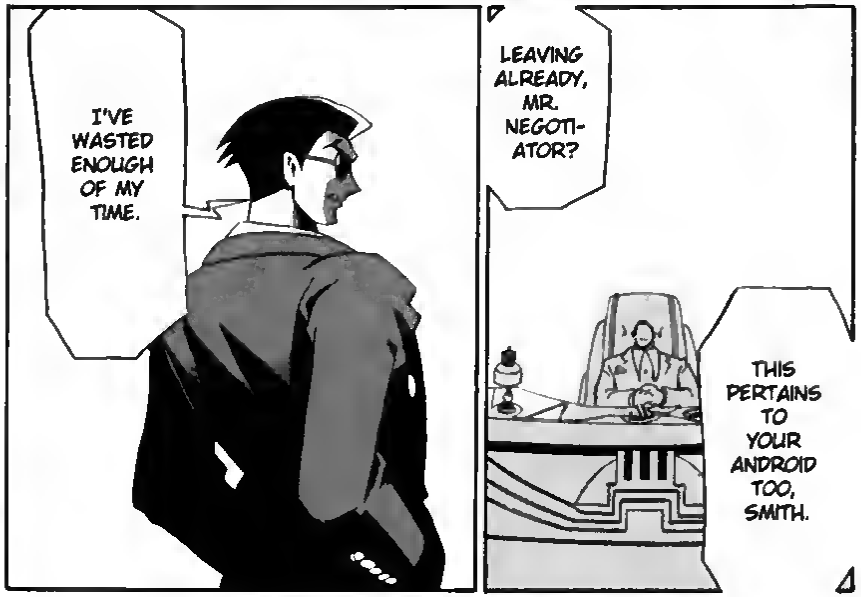

KLANK

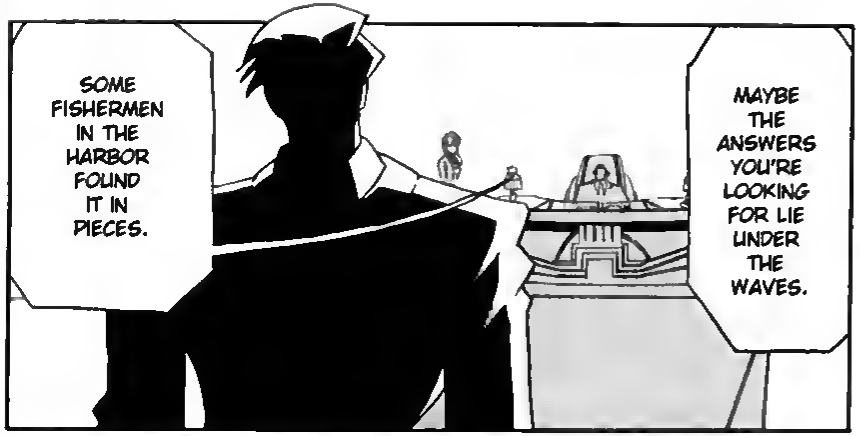

GLUB
GLUB
GLUB
GLUB

YOU RECALL THE FIASCO OVER THE ANGEL?
THE OFFICIAL REPORT STATES THAT A NUMBER OF PEOPLE GOT PARTS OF THEIR MEMORIES BACK AFTERWARD.
WHAT DOES THAT HAVE TO DO WITH MY QUESTION?
HAVE ANY OF YOUR CLIENTS TALKED TO YOU ABOUT WHAT'S ACROSS THE OCEAN?

I'D LIKE YOU TO INFORM ME IF ANYONE EVER DOES.
IT'S YOUR DUTY AS A CITIZEN OF PARADIGM CITY.

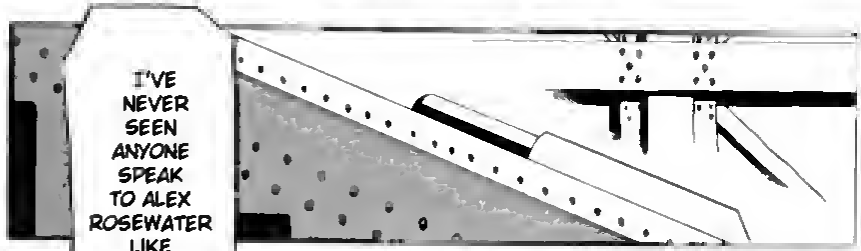

MR. ROSE-WATER..
I DIDN'T COME HERE FOR EXTRA WORK.


I'VE WASTED ENOUGH OF MY TIME.
LEAVING ALREADY, MR. NEGOTI-ATOR?
THIS PERTAINS TO YOUR ANDROID TOO, SMITH.


SOME FISHERMEN IN THE HARBOR FOUND IT IN PIECES.
MAYBE THE ANSWERS YOU'RE LOOKING FOR LIE UNDER THE WAVES.

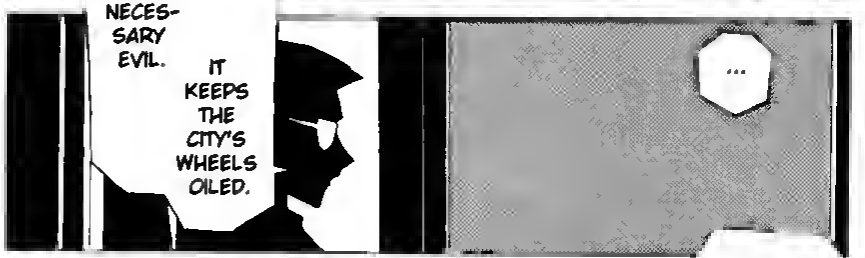
I NEVER THOUGHT THAT YOU WOULD COME HERE...
WITHOUT ME SUMMONING YOU FIRST.

KLAKETA
KLAKETA
28


I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYONE SPEAK TO ALEX ROSEWATER LIKE THAT BEFORE.

PARADIGM CO. AND I HAVE A LONG HISTORY...
OF MUTUAL AVERSION.

BUT I REALIZE IT'S A NECES-SARY EVIL.
IT KEEPS THE CITY'S WHEELS OILED.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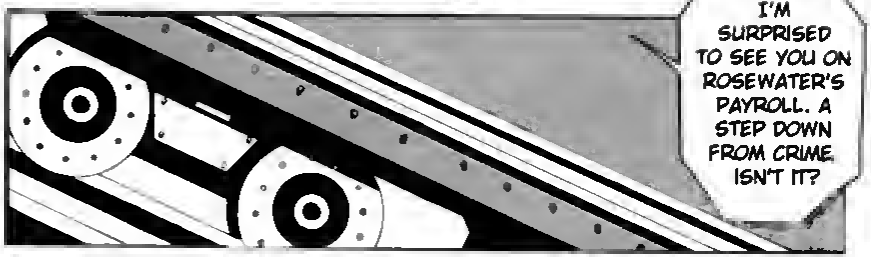
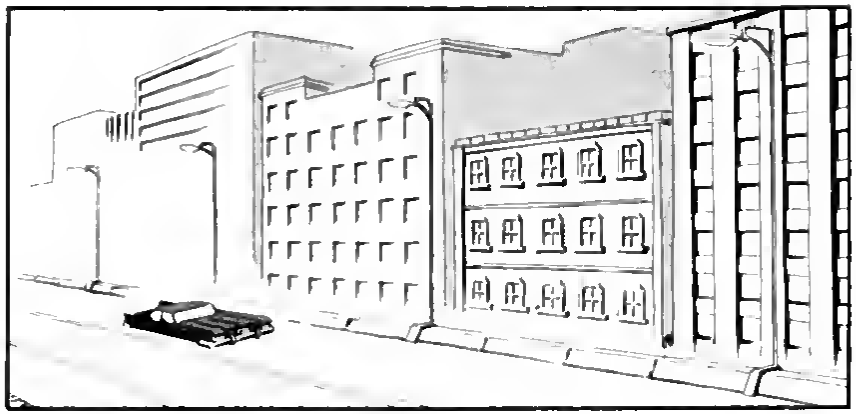

I'M SURPRISED TO SEE YOU ON ROSEWATER'S PAYROLL. A STEP DOWN FROM CRIME, ISN'T IT?

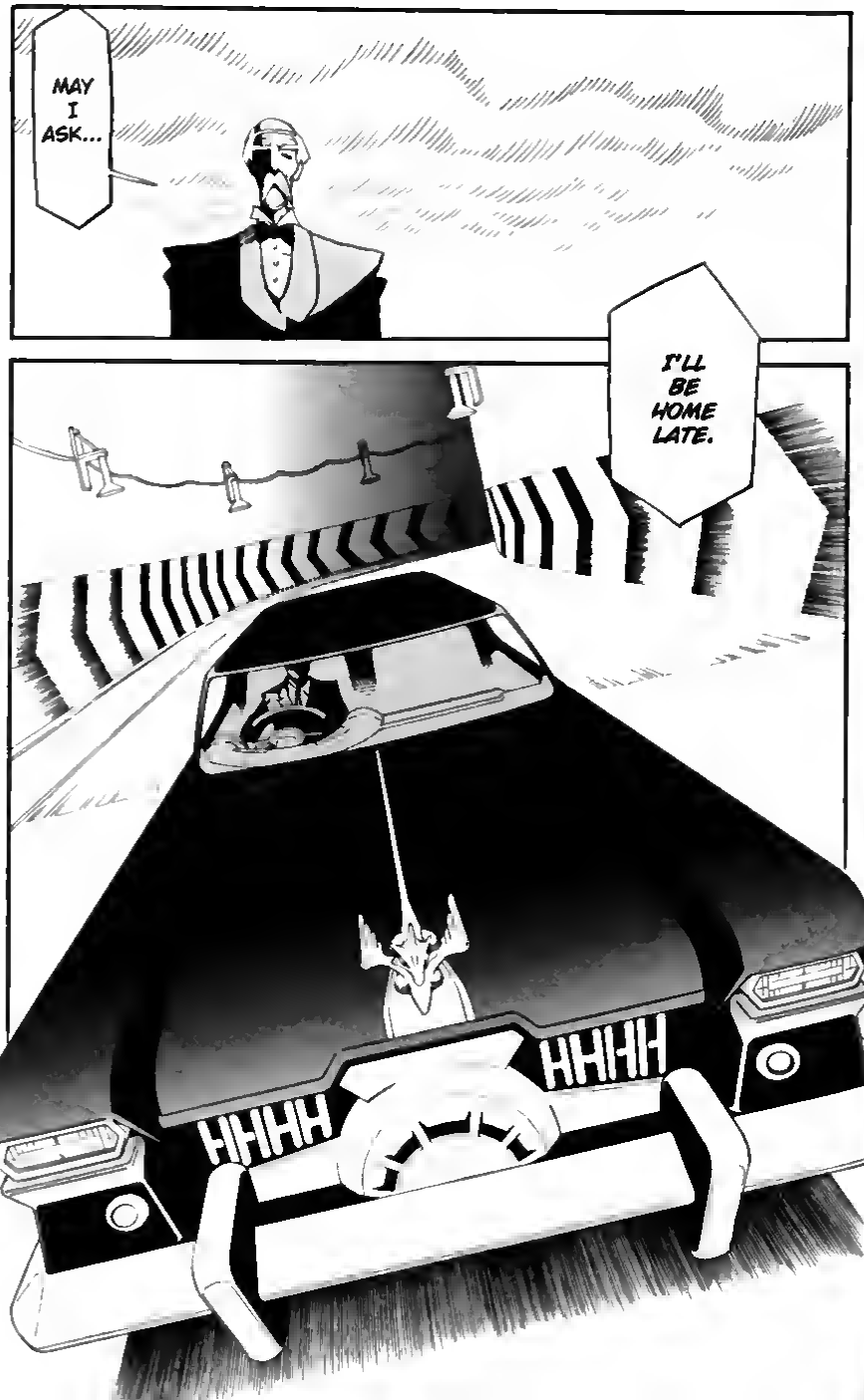
I'M FLATTERED YOU REMEMBERED ME, ROGER.
I THOUGHT YOU'D FORGOTTEN.

...
YOU DO TURN UP IN THE MOST UNEXPECTED PLACES.
SO DO YOU.

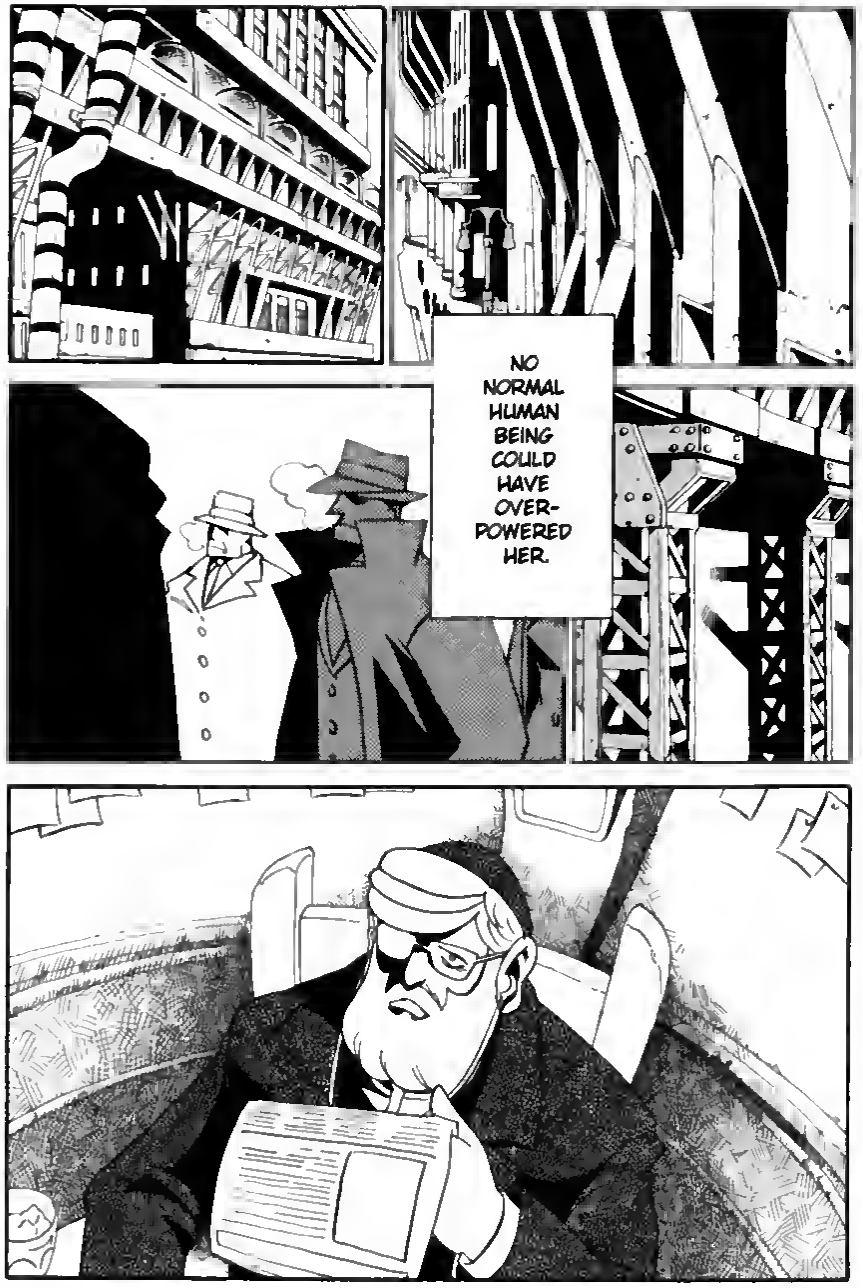


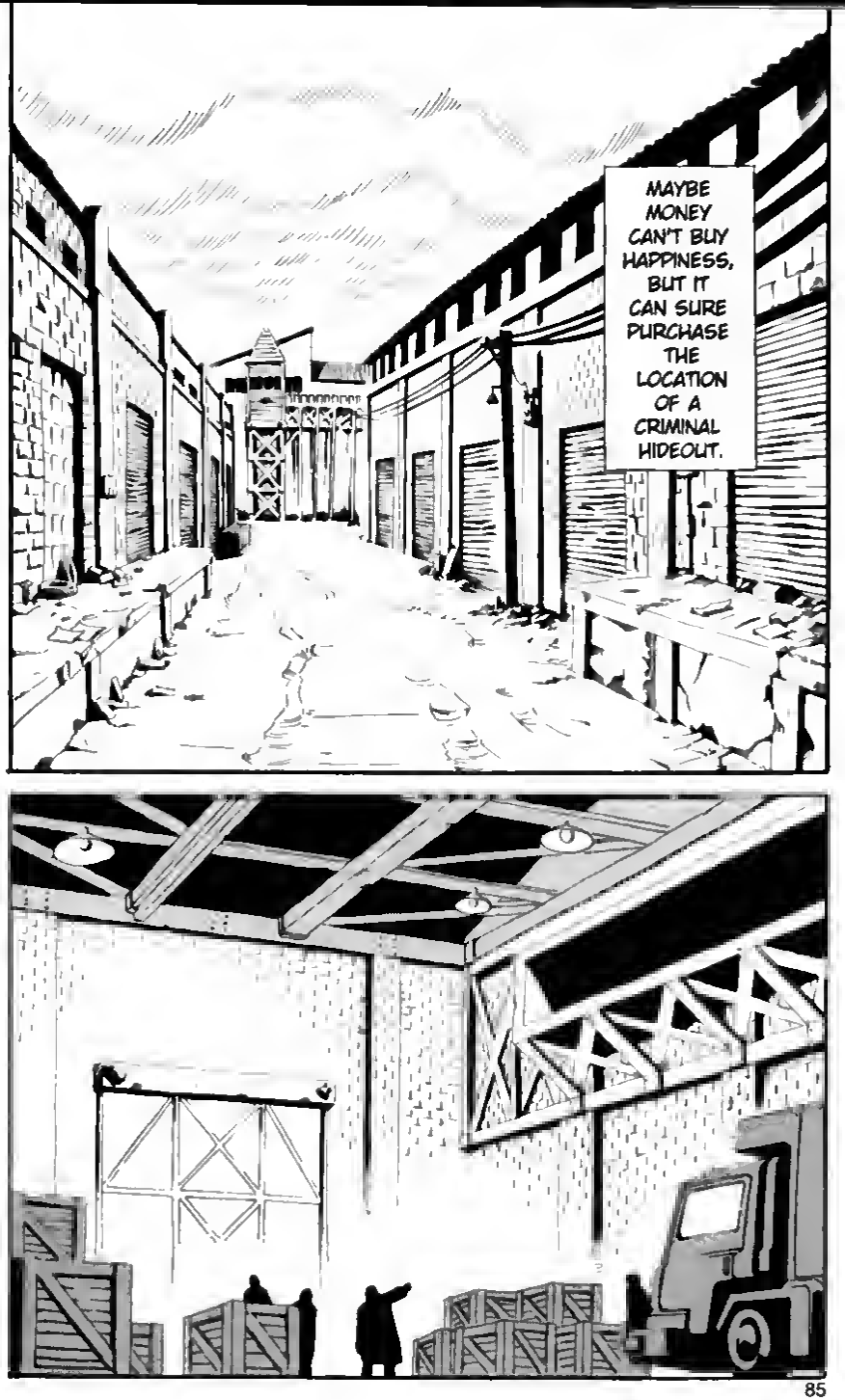
INSTRO STILL PLAYS PIANO FOR DOROTHY EVERY DAY.
I THINK HE ACTUALLY HOPES THE MUSIC WILL RESTORE DOROTHY'S MEMORY... NOT VERY SCIENTIFIC, FOR A MACHINE.

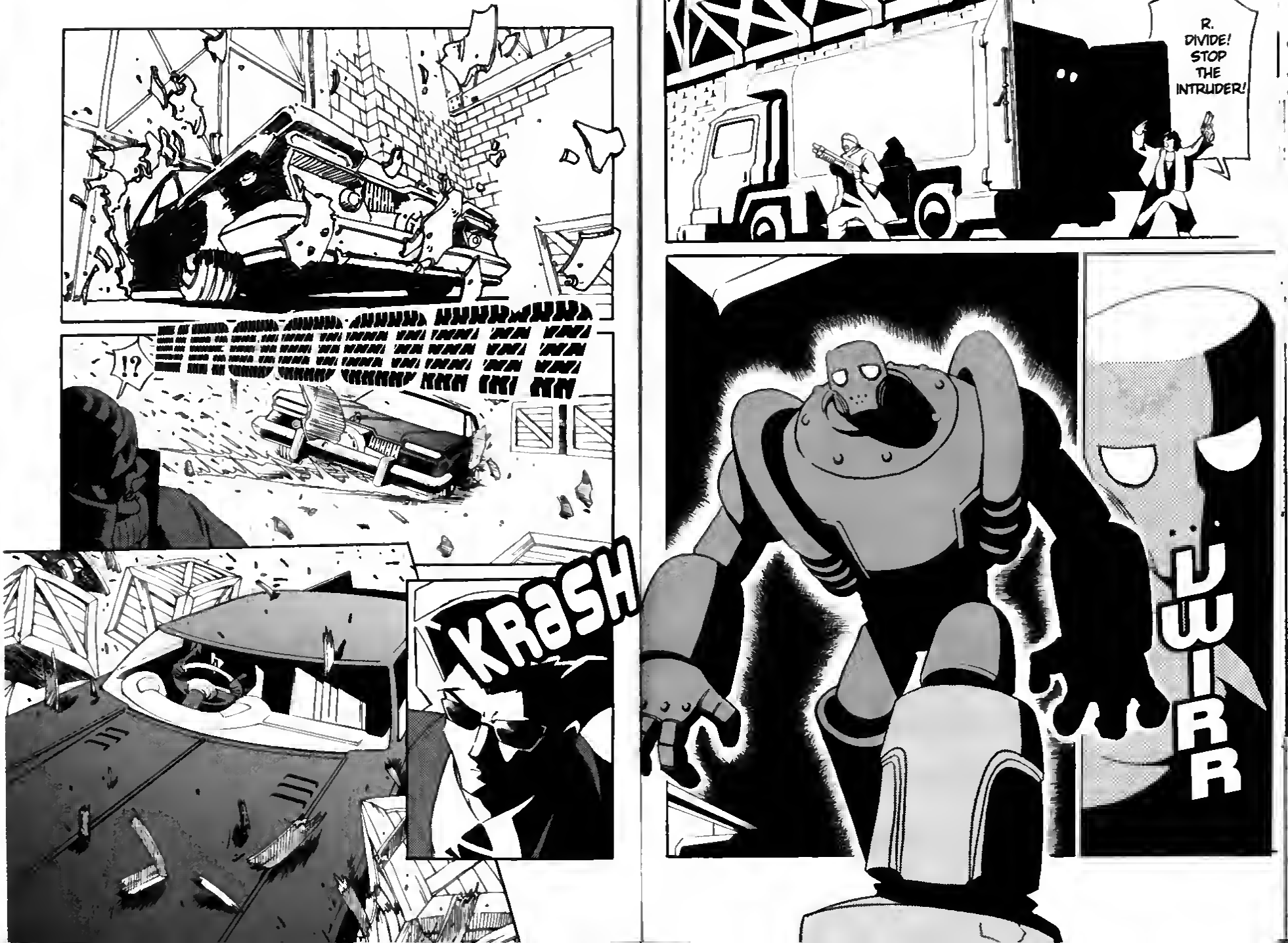
BUT SIR..
I KNOW, I'M NOT BE-LITTLING HIS BELIEFS.
NORMAN, I'M GOING OUT AGAIN.


MAY I ASK...
I'LL BE HOME LATE.
HHHH
HHHH

R. DOROTHY WAYNERIGHT IS AN ANDROID.


NO NORMAL HUMAN BEING COULD HAVE OVER-POWERED HER.


MAYBE MONEY CAN'T BUY HAPPINESS, BUT IT CAN SURE PURCHASE THE LOCATION OF A CRIMINAL HIDEOUT.

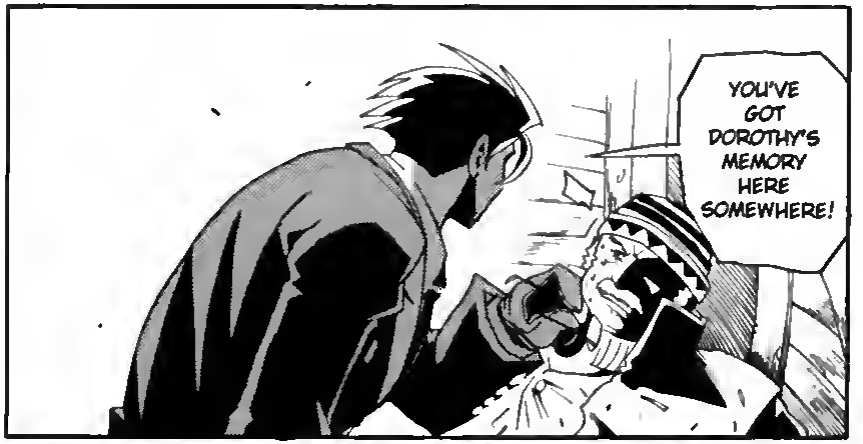

R. DIVIDE! STOP THE INTRUDER!
!?
KRASH
WIRR

CH-CHAK
AHHH
A-TA-TA-TA-TA-TA
WHA...

WHaM

WHAM

CHUK
CHUK
CHUK
CHUK
beep!
KA-BOOOM
ch-Clak


YOU'VE GOT DOROTHY'S MEMORY HERE SOMEWHERE!

WHERE IS IT?
WOOM
!?
KA-CHANG

GRRRRRRR
KACHAK
SMALL WORLD, EH, ROGER?

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, NEGOTIATOR?

I'VE COME FOR DOROTHY'S MEMORIES.
THEY MAY BE HER MEMORIES...
BUT THEY BELONG TO THE WHOLE WORLD.
I'M AFRAID YOU CAN'T HAVE THEM.
WHO ARE YOU?
WHAT'S YOUR GAME?

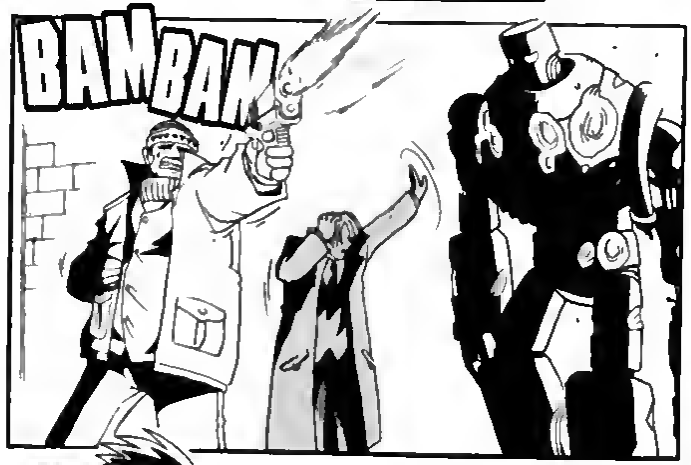
I TOLD YOU.
MY NAME IS ANGEL.
THE FALLEN KIND?
YOU'RE IN WAY OVER YOUR HEAD, ROGER SMITH.
GO NOW. IT WOULD RUIN MY DAY TO HAVE TO KILL YOU.
Angel: END

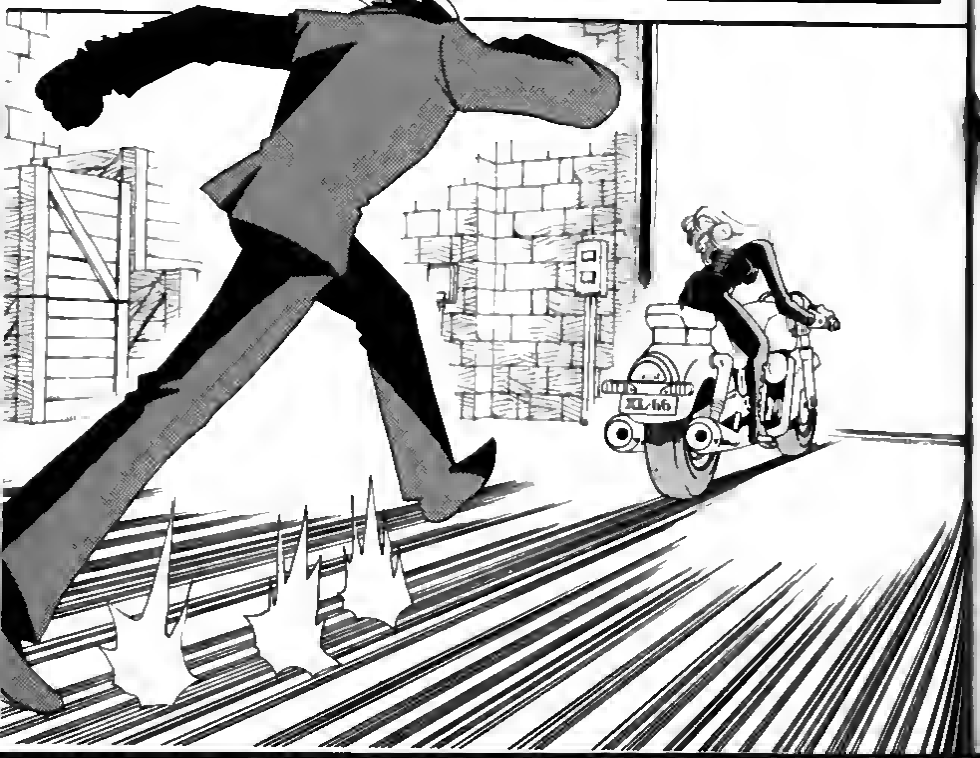
THE ビッグオー

Chapter 20:

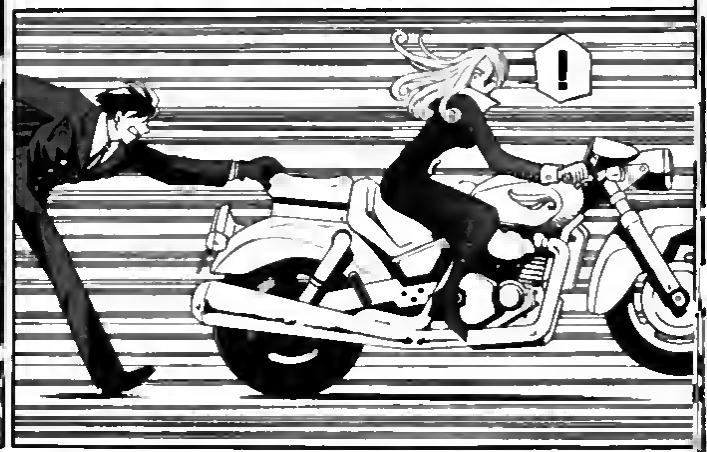
The Memory Disk

Wrr
!!

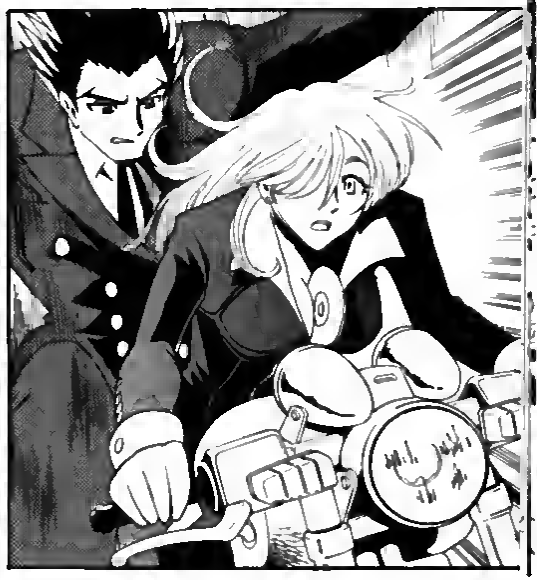

BAMBAM


XL66

WAP


!

VOOM
XL66



HAND OVER THAT DISK!
AH-AH-AH.
!!
SWIP
OH, ROGER, YOU'RE SO IMPETUOUS!

AND HERE I THOUGHT YOU WERE A GENTLEMAN.

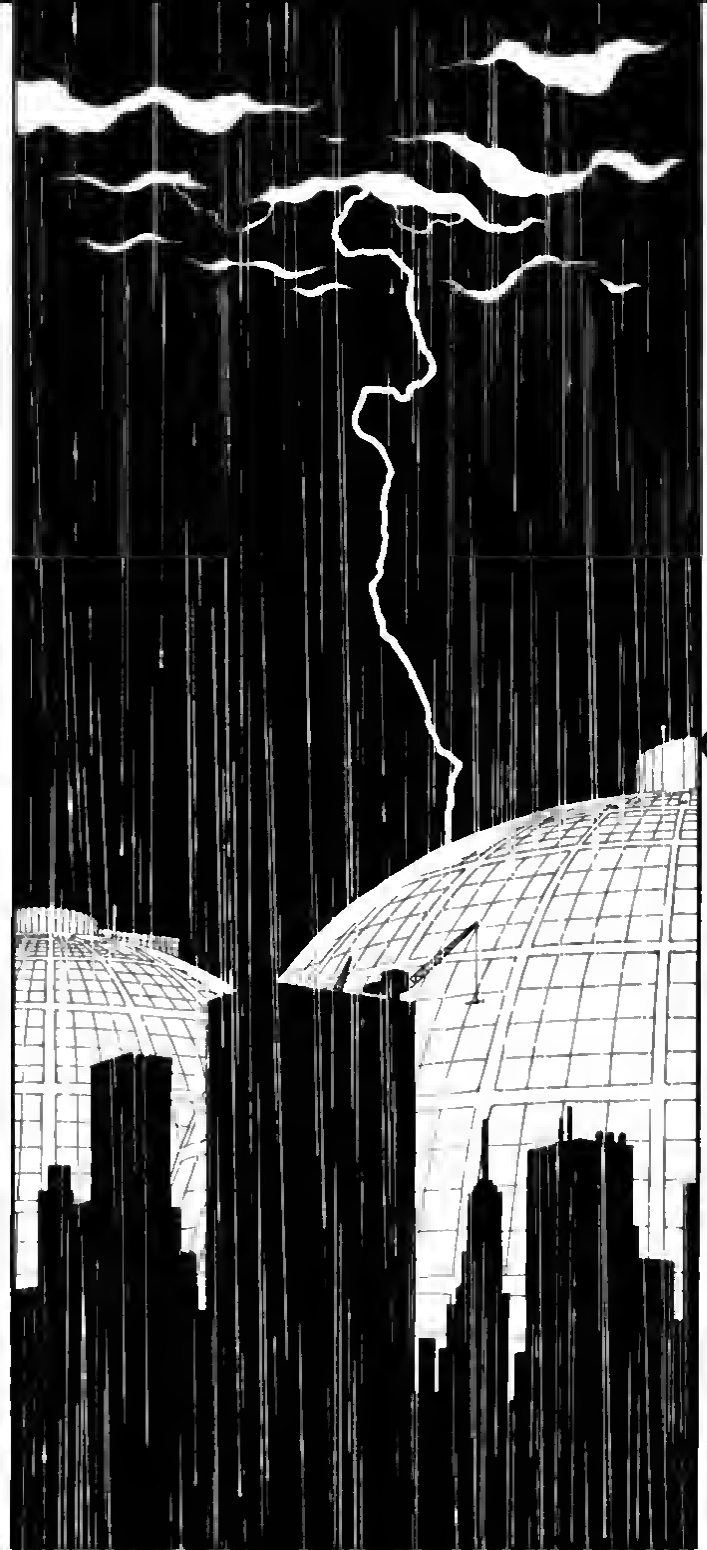
HUH?

screech

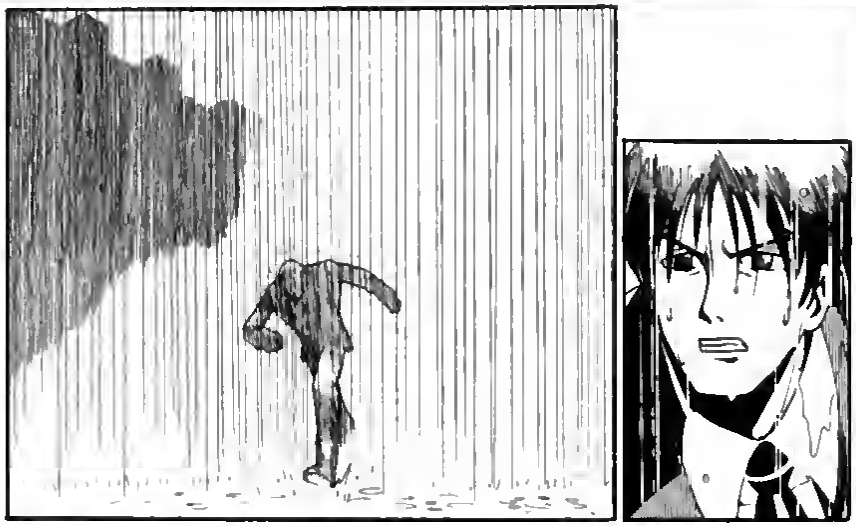
RMB
RMB
RMB
RMB
KRAKOOM
PLIP
PLIP
PLIP

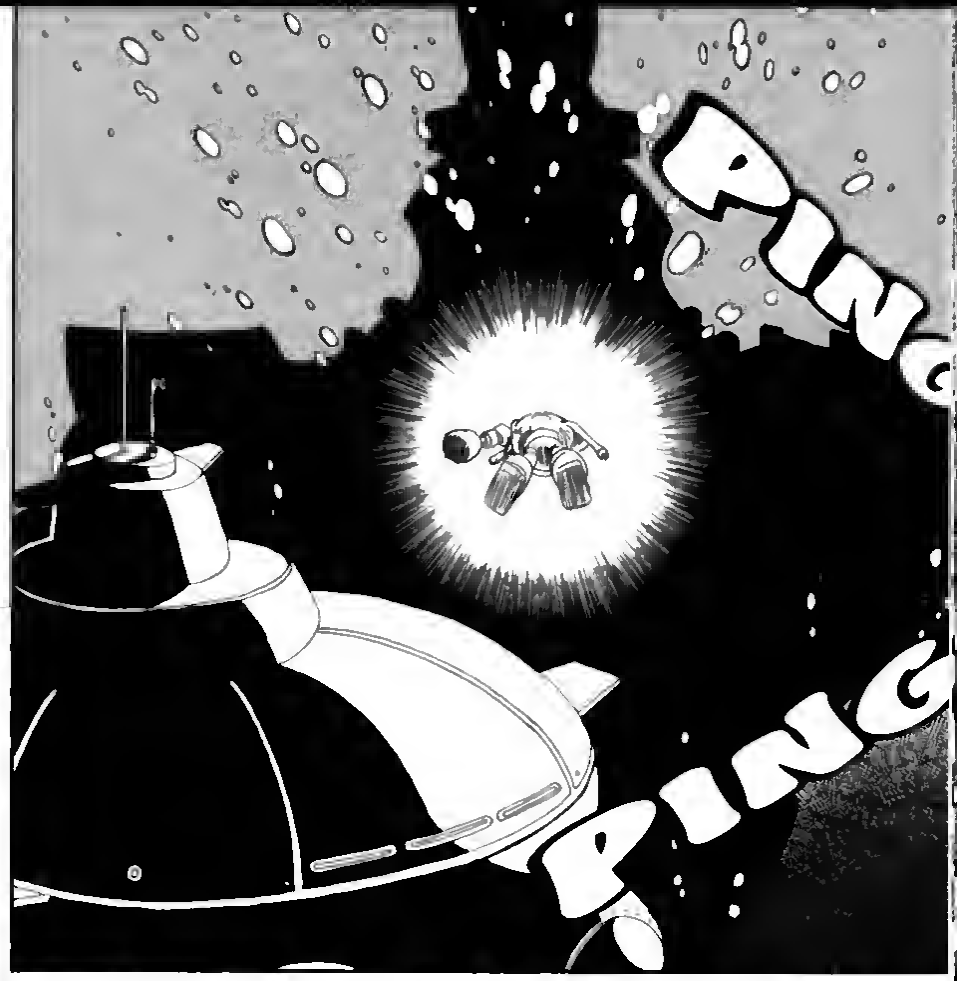
NORMAN! I GOT DOROTHY'S MEMORY DISK BACK!
RMB RMB
RMB RMB
YOU'VE FOUND IT, SIR?
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA!

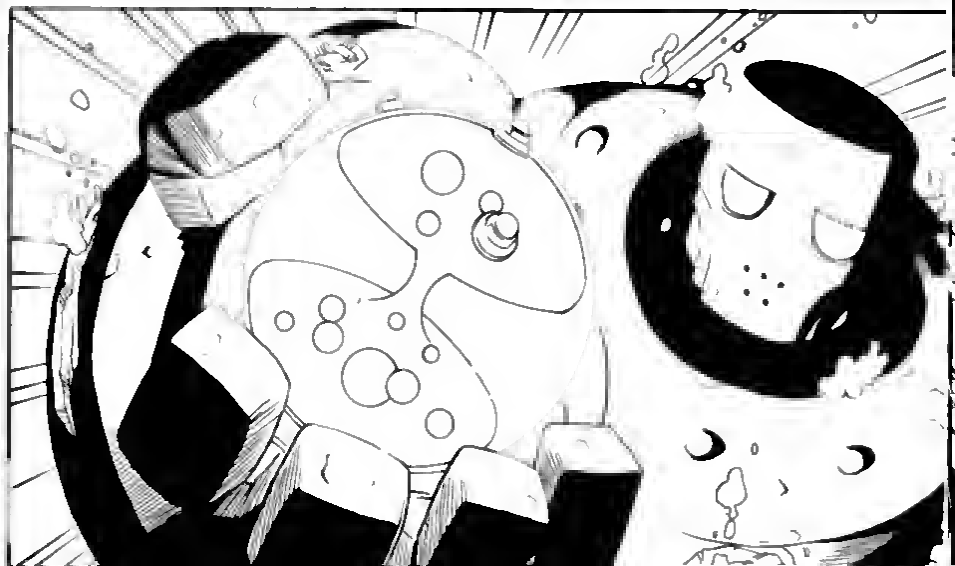
I NEVER SAID THAT WAS HER MEMORY DISK.
WHA ...
THAT WAS FUN.
SEE YOU AROUND, ROGER SMITH.
VROOM
VROOM
!
KSSSH
THEN WHERE'S THE REAL DISK!?



GLUB
GLUB
GLUB
GLUB
GLUB




PING
PING



SWASH
RRRMMMB
KRAK!
PRRMMMB

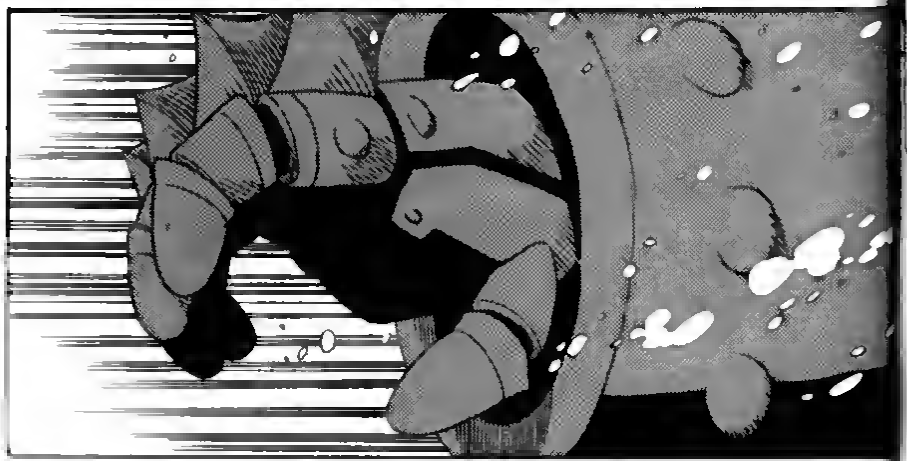
SLOOSH
FWASH
RRMMMMBE

CAST IN THE NAME OF GOD...
PSE!

BIG O!
SHOWTIME!
YE NOT GUILTY!
RMMB
RRoaR

SPLOOSH
KASPLASH

RRR
VMM



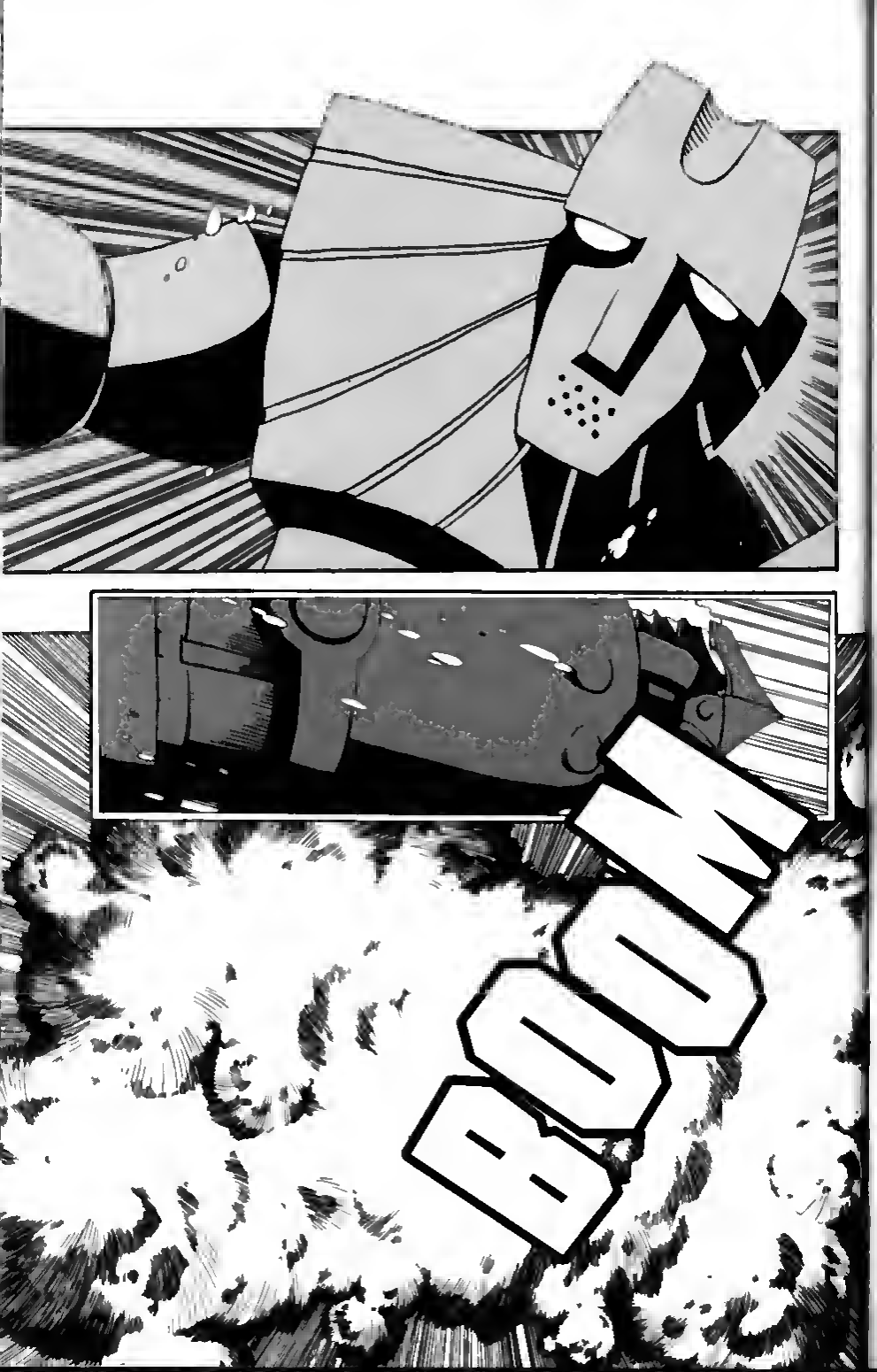
KRANGG
CAN YOU HEAR ME? I KNOW YOU'RE IN THERE, ROGER SMITH.
YOU'RE SUCH A FOOL.
I WARNED YOU.
ANGEL!

SO THE MEMORY DISK IS IN THERE!

YES.
WE USED IT IN BIG FOUR'S OPERATING SYSTEM. YOU'LL NEVER FIND IT NOW.
JUST LIKE LAST TIME... THIS MEMORY DISK IS PERFECT...
BIG... FOUR!?
THAT PRE-EVENT TECHNOLOGY, YOU KNOW...
IS ALEX BEHIND THIS?
ALEX HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT.
BY NOW HE'S REALIZED THAT HIS SECRETARY, AND A LOT OF VALUABLE DATA, ARE MISSING.

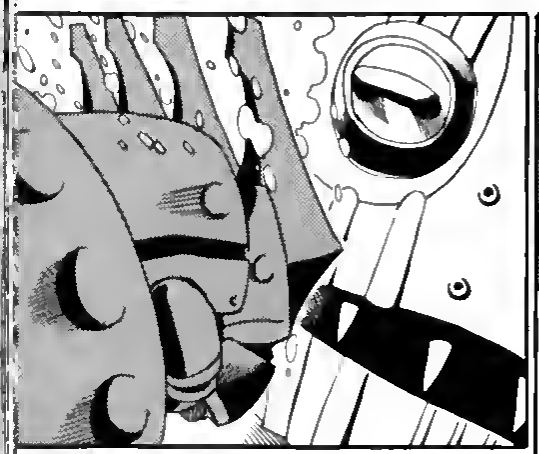
MASTER ROG-
BLIP... KRSHH
NOON

REMEMBER OUR LAST OCEAN TRIP, ROGER?
I'M IN NO MOOD TO REMINISCE, ANGEL.
ARE YOU THE ONE ALEX WAS TALKING ABOUT? THE ONE FROM ACROSS THE OCEAN?!
WHO KNOWS?
I'M JUST AN ORDINARY WOMAN.
ROAR
THOOM
CHAKG
SWASH

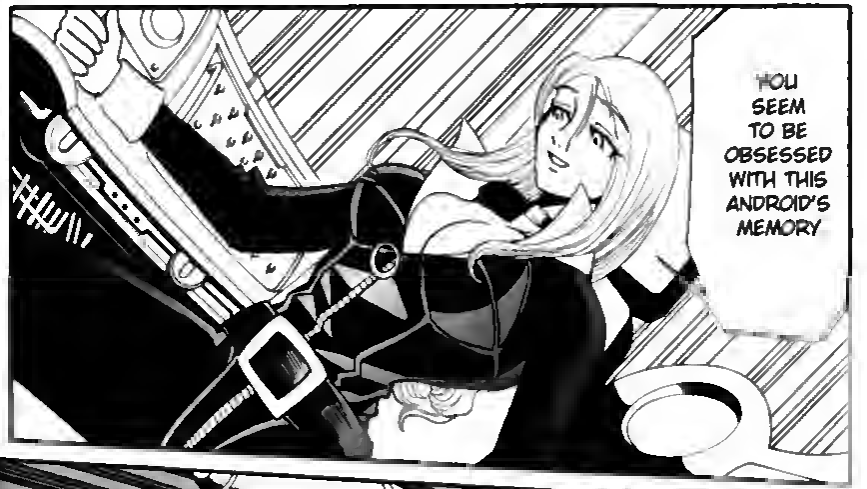

BOOM

SPLOOSH
RRMMMMB
!
WHAT'S HAPPENING UNDER THE WATER?

SWOOSH



rrg
...!


YOU SEEM TO BE OBSESSED WITH THIS ANDROID'S MEMORY

WOOOSH
KA
BOOM

MASTER ROGER, YOU MUST GO BACK.
BIG O CAN'T WITH-STAND SUCH PUNISH-MENT!
I DIDN'T PREPARE FOR AN UNDER-WATER BATTLE THIS TIME...
THMMM
BAM
ROARR
GROOM
UNFOR-TUNATELY FOR YOU...
BIG FOUR WAS DESIGNED FOR UNDER-WATER USE.

WIRR
WOOOSH
WHAM

KRASH
MASTER ROGER, THIS IS TOO DANGER-OUS.
BIG O'S EQUIPMENT IS TOO WEAK TO DEFEAT THE ENEMY MEGADEUS...

BUT DOROTHY'S MEMORY IS INSIDE THAT MONSTER.
I CAN'T LET IT GET AWAY!
CHUGGA CHUGGA
WHAM

whoosh
YOU MAY DEFEAT THE ENEMY, YET DESTROY THE PRIZE.
HOWEVER, IF YOU CONTINUE THIS BATTLE...
IT'S TRUE...
DOROTHY'S MEMORY IS BEING USED BY THAT MEGADEUS.
MAYBE, BUT I'VE GOT TO RISK IT!

ANGEL HERE. BIG FOUR IS OPER-ATIONAL I'M AT THE CONTROLS.
BUT PARADIGM CITY'S BIG CROSSING GUARD IS IN HOT PURSUIT.
BOOM
BOOM

fwoosh

IT'S JUST AN AND-ROID'S MEMORY DISK.
WHY IS HE SO...

heh
HA... HA HA...
HA HA HA HA!
SO THIS MEMORY DISK IS SOMETHING YOU'D RISK YOUR LIFE FOR.
ROGER SMITH, YOU'RE ONE IN A MILLION.

THERE IS, HOWEVER, ONE PROBLEM.
HER MEMORY HAS BEEN REMOVED.
SHE'LL FUNCTION NORMALLY, BUT...

...SHE'LL NEVER BE THE SAME DOROTHY AGAIN.

SHE'LL NEVER BE THE SAME DOROTHY AGAIN!!
KABOOM

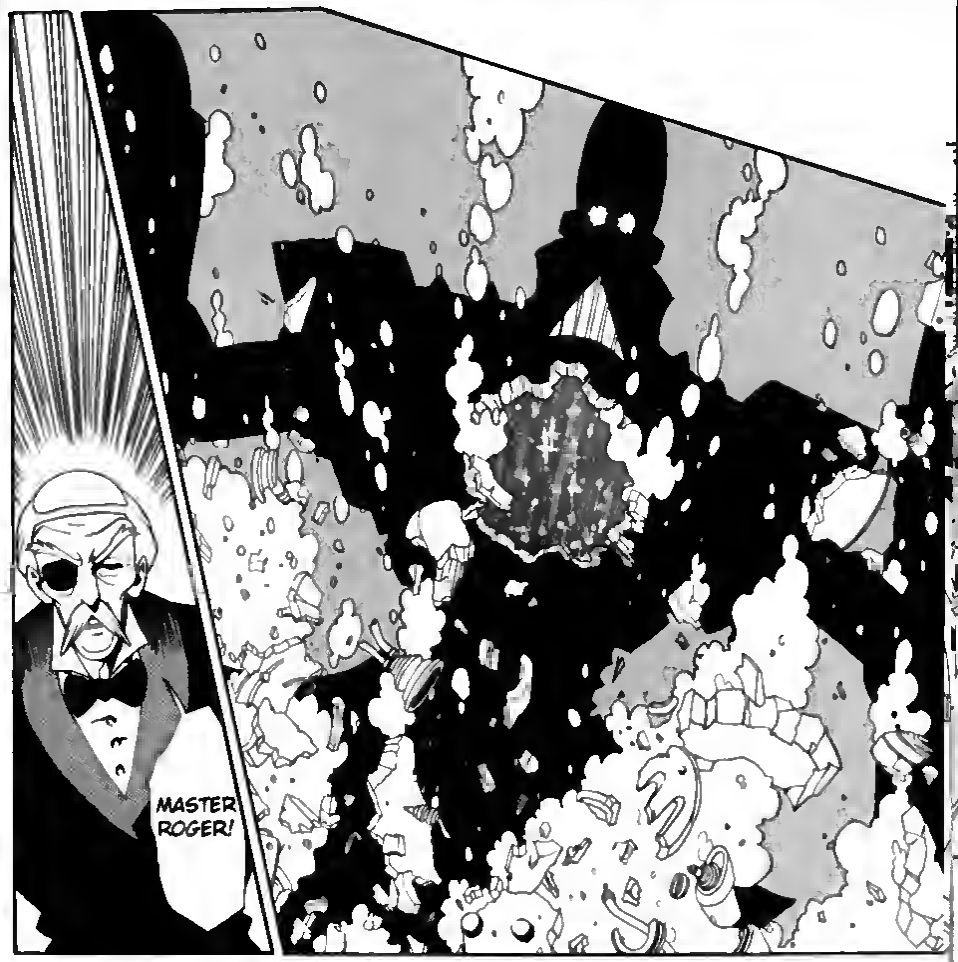
The Memory Disk: END

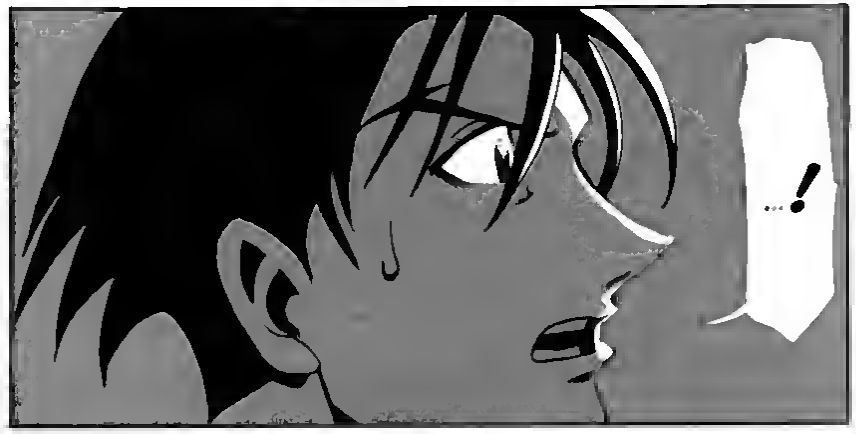
THE ビッグオー

Chapter 21:
Roger...

WHOOM

...LOOKS LIKE YOUR ARMOR COULDN'T TAKE THE PRESSURE ...


MASTER ROGER!


...!

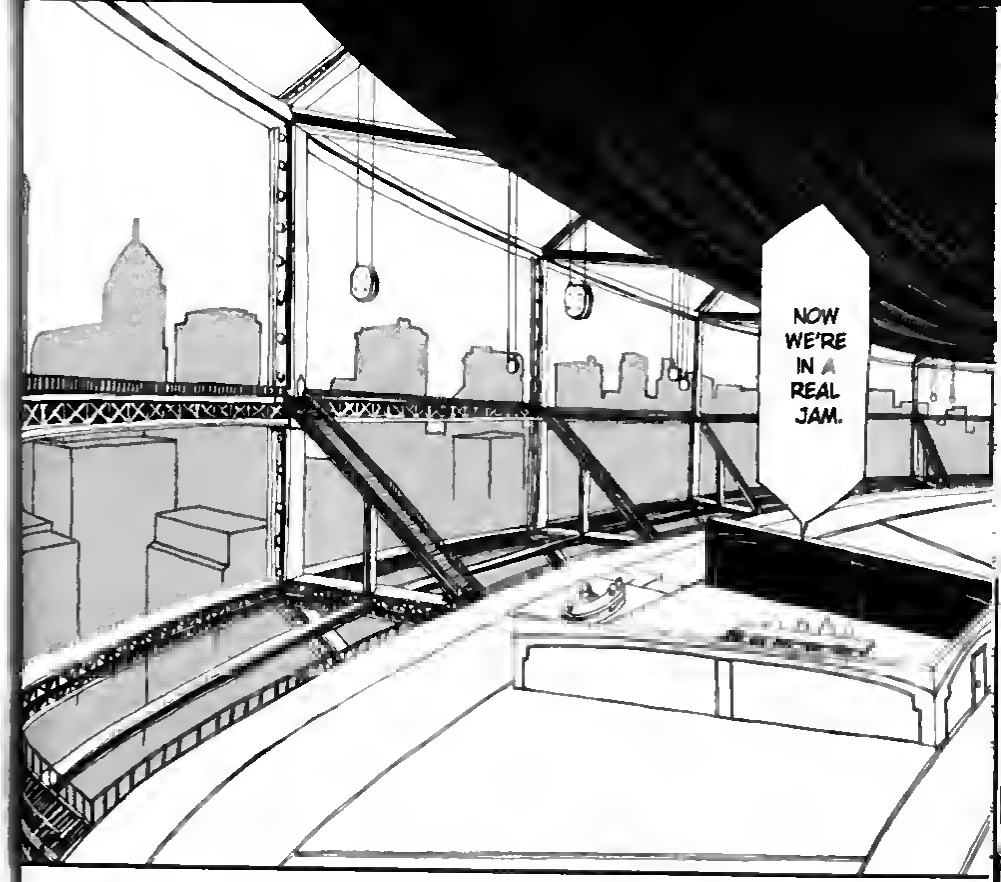
THE MEMORY IS JUST THE STARTUP UNIT.
WITH BIG FOUR ACTIVATED, I DON'T NEED IT ANY MORE.
THIS MUST'VE BEEN A HARD DECISION FOR YOU. I'M SORRY IT WAS FOR NOTHING...

MASTER ROGER...
I APOLOGIZE, SIR. I FAILED TO FORESEE THIS POSSIBILITY.

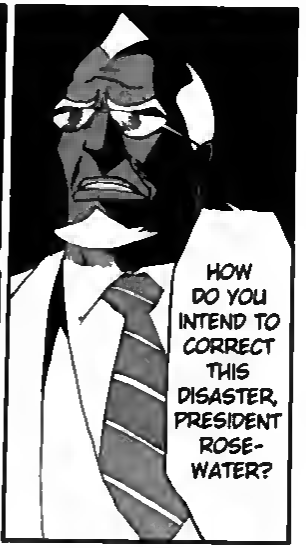
WE COULD USE THE PRAIRIE DOG TO BRING REPLACE-MENT PARTS...
BUT, UNFORT-UNATELY, THE CITY'S UNDER-GROUND HAS BEEN FLOODED.
THE NEW ARM COULDN'T STAND THE STRESS.
AND THE REMAINING ARM IS RIDDLED WITH STRESS FRAC-TURES.
YOU CAN THROW ONLY ONE MORE BLOW, AND I'M DOUBTFUL IT WILL BE ENOUGH...

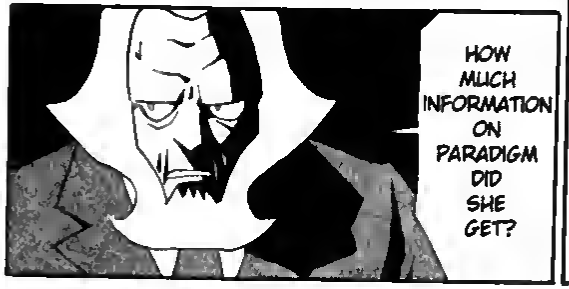
KANG

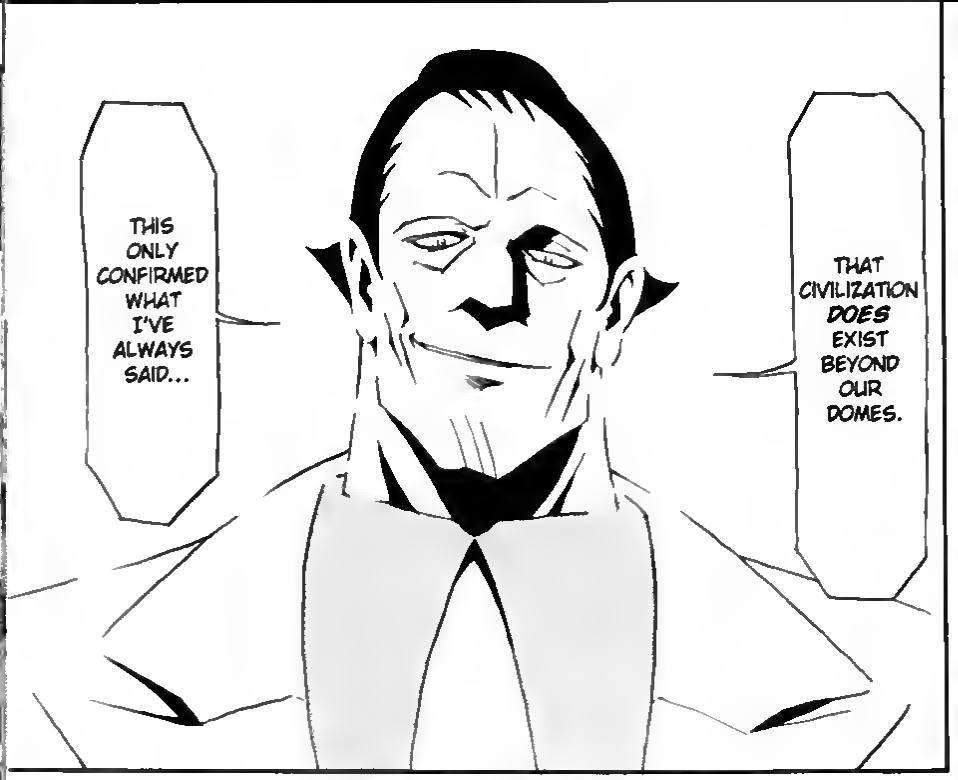
GOODBYE, ROGER SMITH...
MAYBE WE'LL MEET AGAIN IN ANOTHER LIFE.

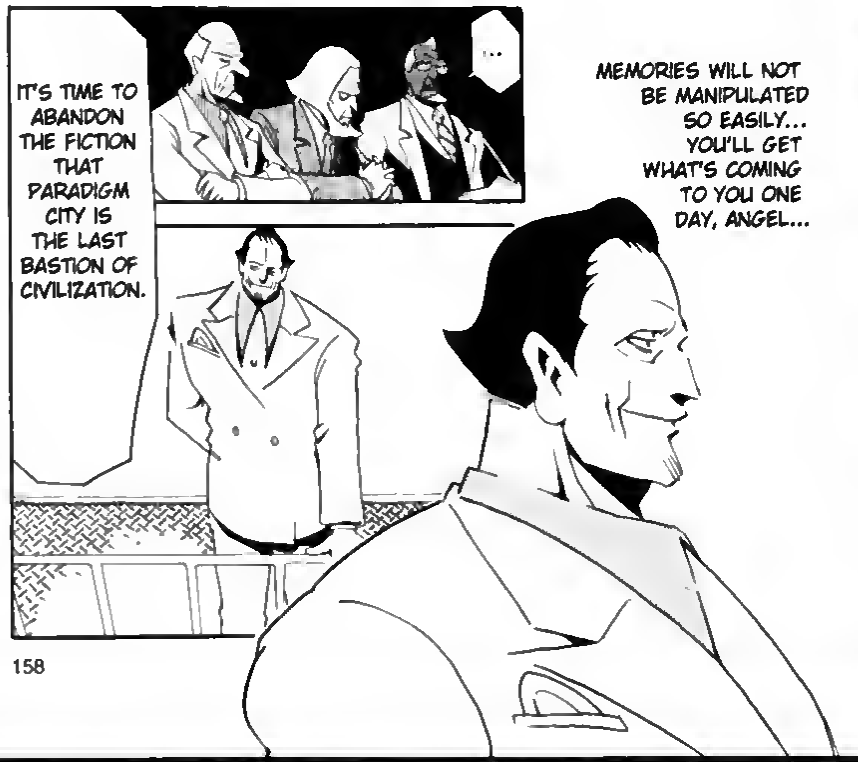

NOW WE'RE IN A REAL JAM.

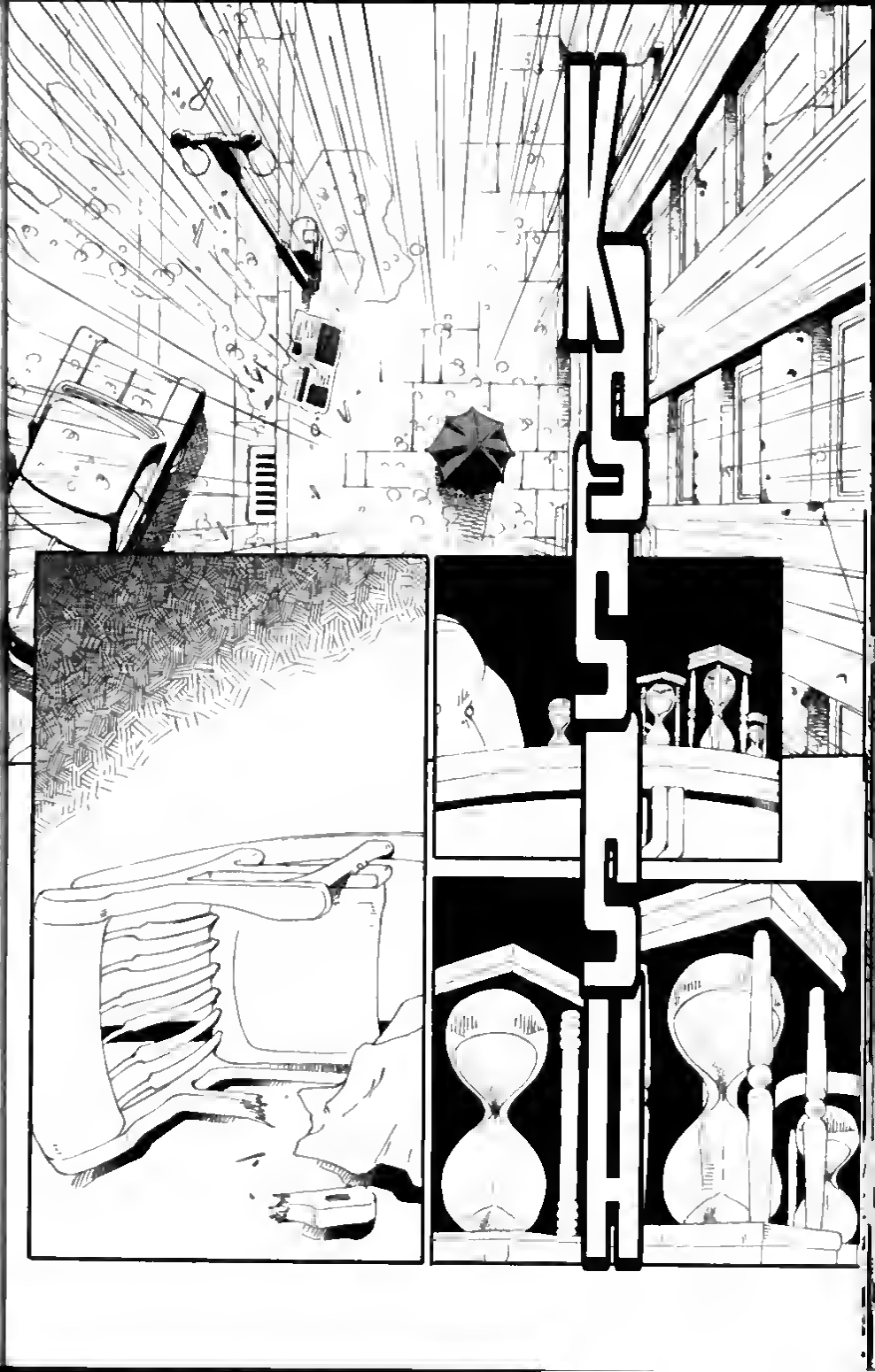
TO THINK THAT SHE WAS A SPY...


HOW DO YOU INTEND TO CORRECT THIS DISASTER, PRESIDENT ROSE-WATER?

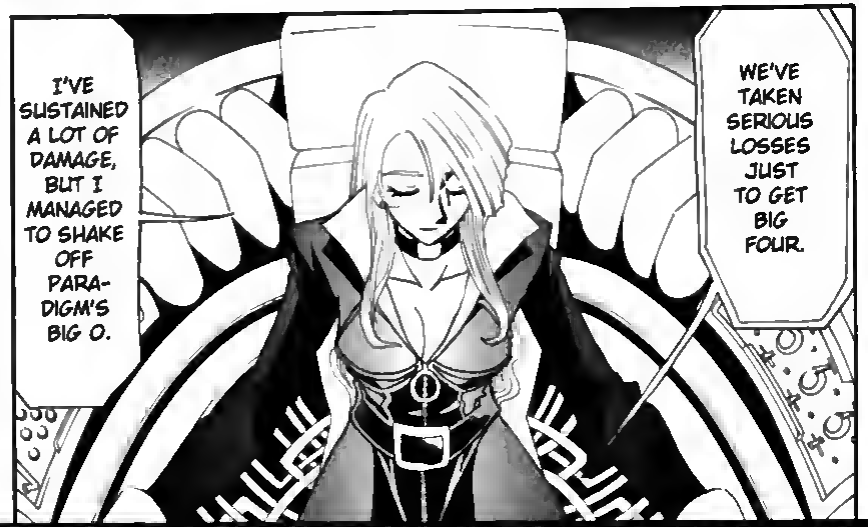

HOW MUCH INFORMATION ON PARADIGM DID SHE GET?


THIS ONLY CONFIRMED WHAT I'VE ALWAYS SAID...
THAT CIVILIZATION DOES EXIST BEYOND OUR DOMES.

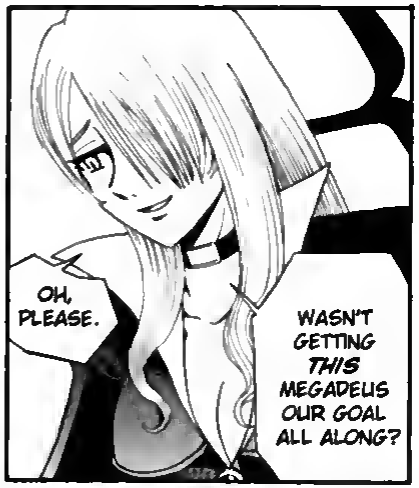

...
IT'S TIME TO ABANDON THE FICTION THAT PARADIGM CITY IS THE LAST BASTION OF CIVILIZATION.
MEMORIES WILL NOT BE MANIPULATED SO EASILY... YOU'LL GET WHAT'S COMING TO YOU ONE DAY, ANGEL...

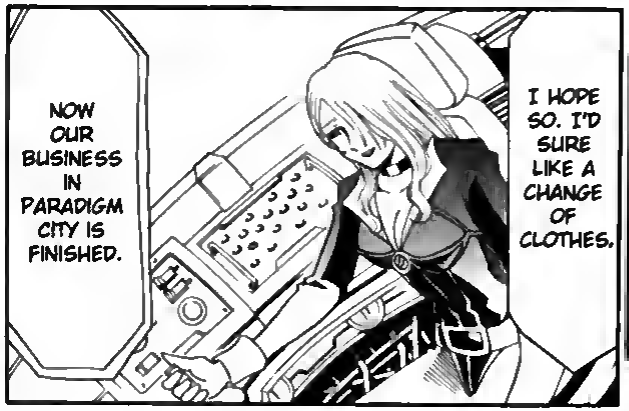

KUSUSH

POW


I'VE SUSTAINED A LOT OF DAMAGE, BUT I MANAGED TO SHAKE OFF PARA-DIGM'S BIG O.
WE'VE TAKEN SERIOUS LOSSES JUST TO GET BIG FOUR.

WE'VE LOST THREE MEGA-DEUSES.


OH, PLEASE.
WASN'T GETTING *THIS* MEGADEUS OUR GOAL ALL ALONG?

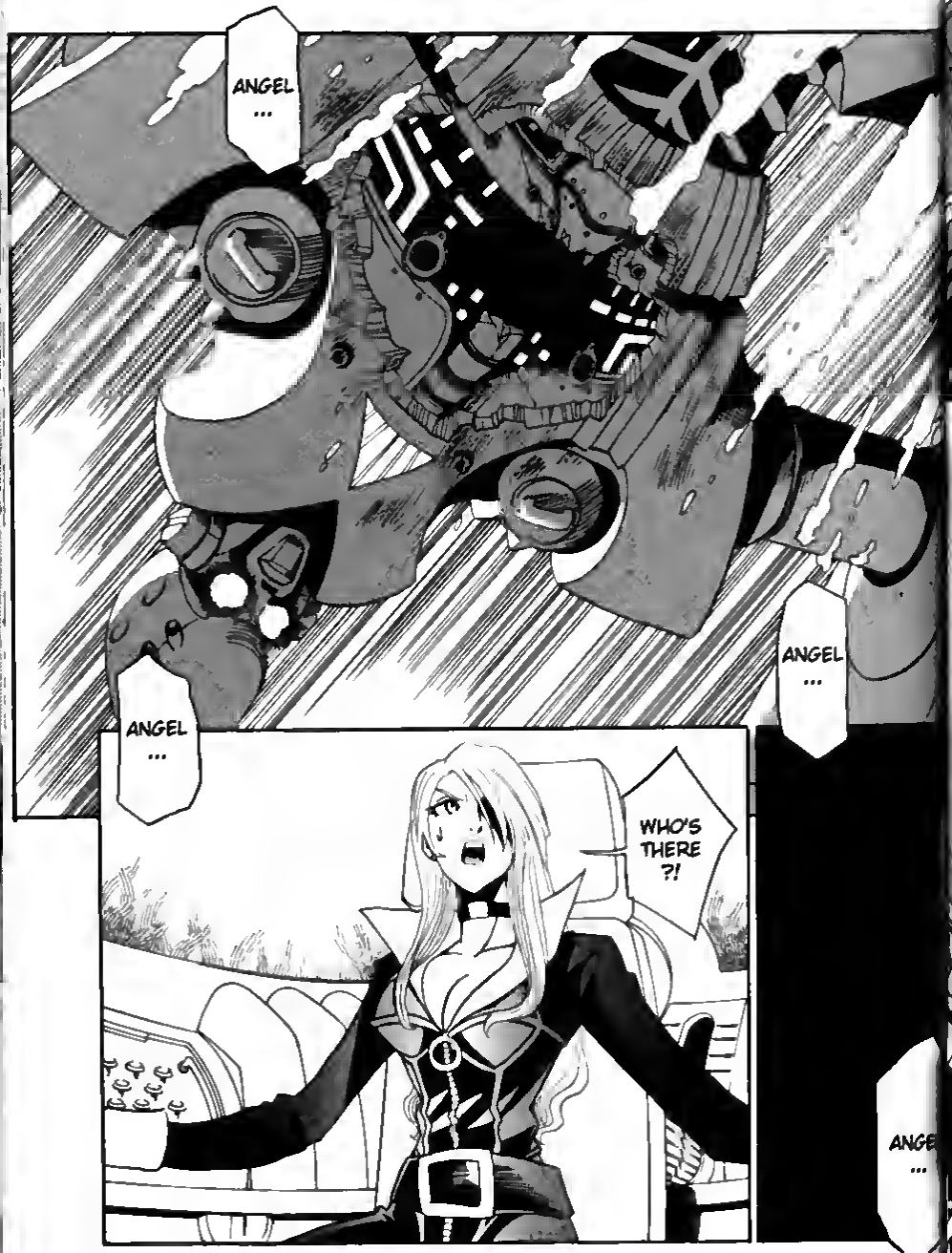

NOW OUR BUSINESS IN PARADIGM CITY IS FINISHED.
I HOPE SO. I'D SURE LIKE A CHANGE OF CLOTHES.

ANGEL...

WHAT?

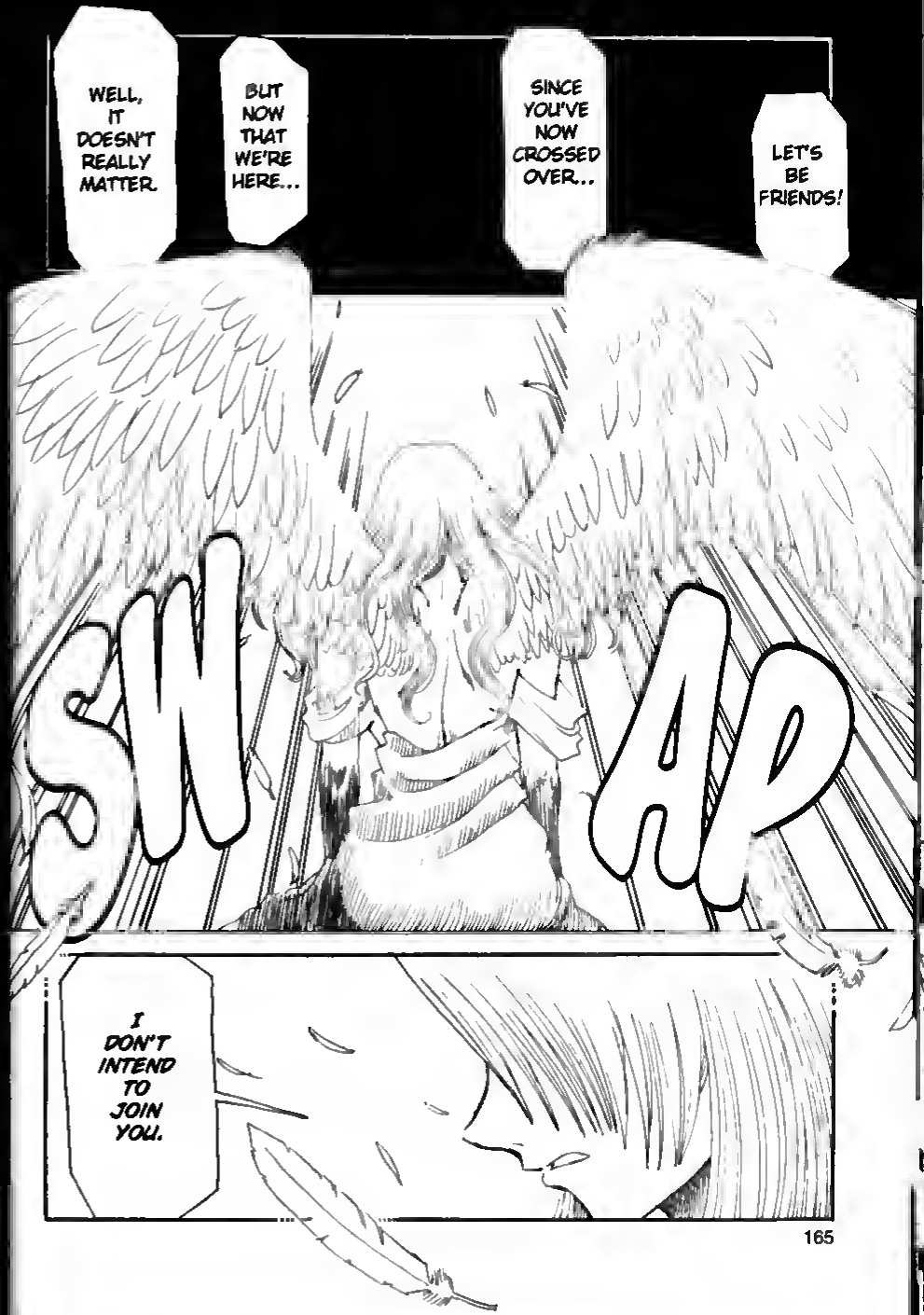
THE COM-LINK IS DOWN?
RESPOND, OVER. DID SOMETHING HAPPEN OVER THERE?

ANGEL ...

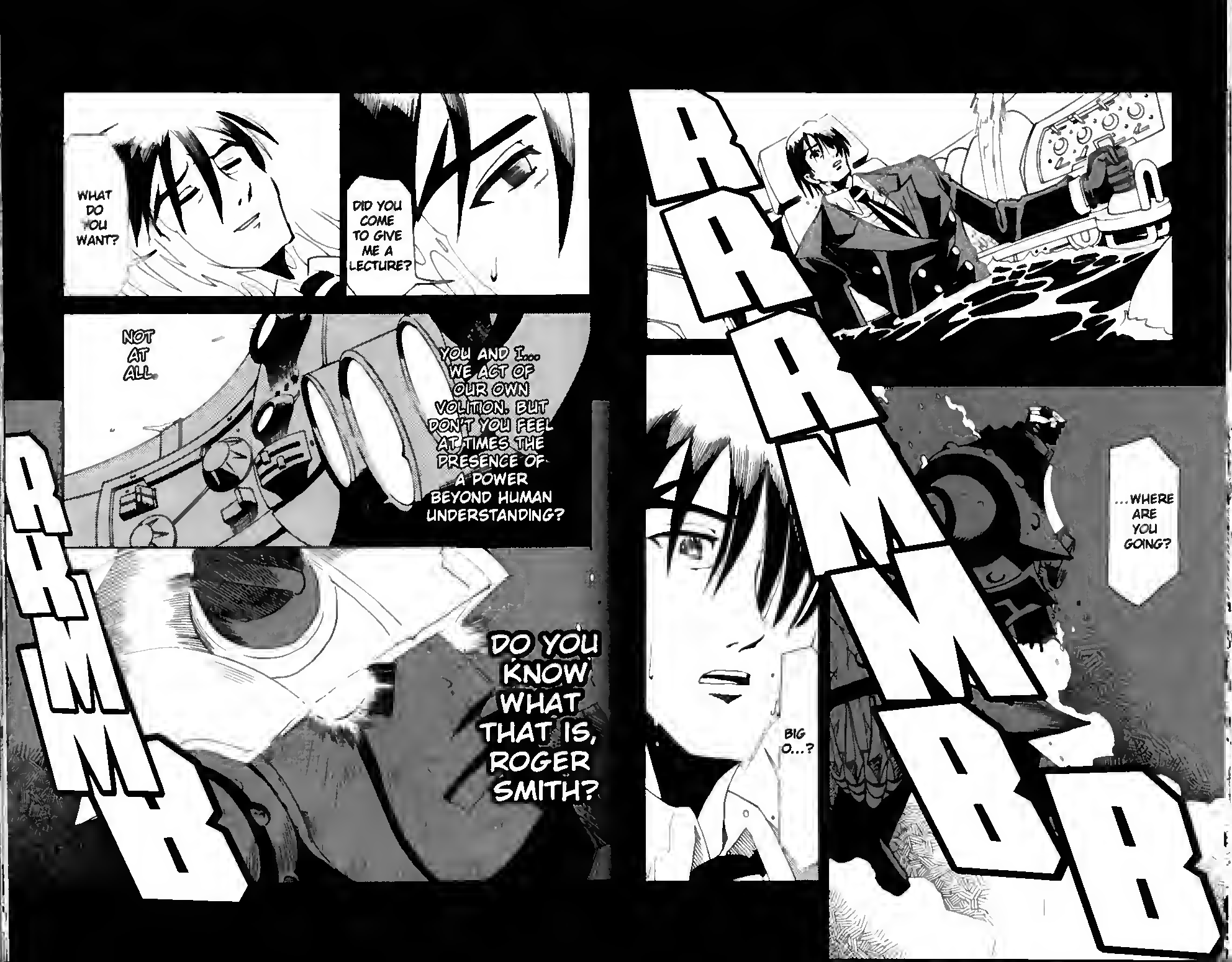

ANGEL
...
ANGEL
...
ANGEL
...
WHO'S THERE ?!
ANGE
...

...
BIG FOUR.. IS THAT YOU?
ARE YOU THE ONE CALLING MY NAME?

ANGEL.
WHEN YOU GAVE ME THE HEAVY METAL UNIT...
THE WHOLE THING ABOUT THE ANGEL AND AFTER-WARDS...
?!
IT WAS ALL A PART OF YOUR PLAN, WASN'T IT.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
HOW DID YOU GET HERE?
DON'T STONE-WALL ME, BABY!
NOT AFTER I WENT ALONG WITH IT ALL EVEN THOUGH I KNEW YOU WERE PULLING A FAST ONE...


WELL, IT DOESN'T REALLY MATTER.
BUT NOW THAT WE'RE HERE...
SINCE YOU'VE NOW CROSSED OVER...
LET'S BE FRIENDS!
SWAP
I DON'T INTEND TO JOIN YOU.

HAVE YOU FOUND WHAT YOU WERE LOOKING FOR, ROGER SMITH?
I DESTROYED DOROTHY'S MEMORY DISK.
.....
OH...
SO?
I DES-TROYED HER MEMORY ...
HER VERY ESSENCE ...
SHE'LL NEVER BE WHO SHE WAS BEFORE.
I...
INTERESTING. YOU TOLD ME ONCE THAT THE FUTURE WAS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE PAST.
IS IT SO TERRIBLE TO HAVE LOST THE PAST? ARE YOU GOING TO WANDER IN SEARCH OF THE PAST NOW, LIKE ME?

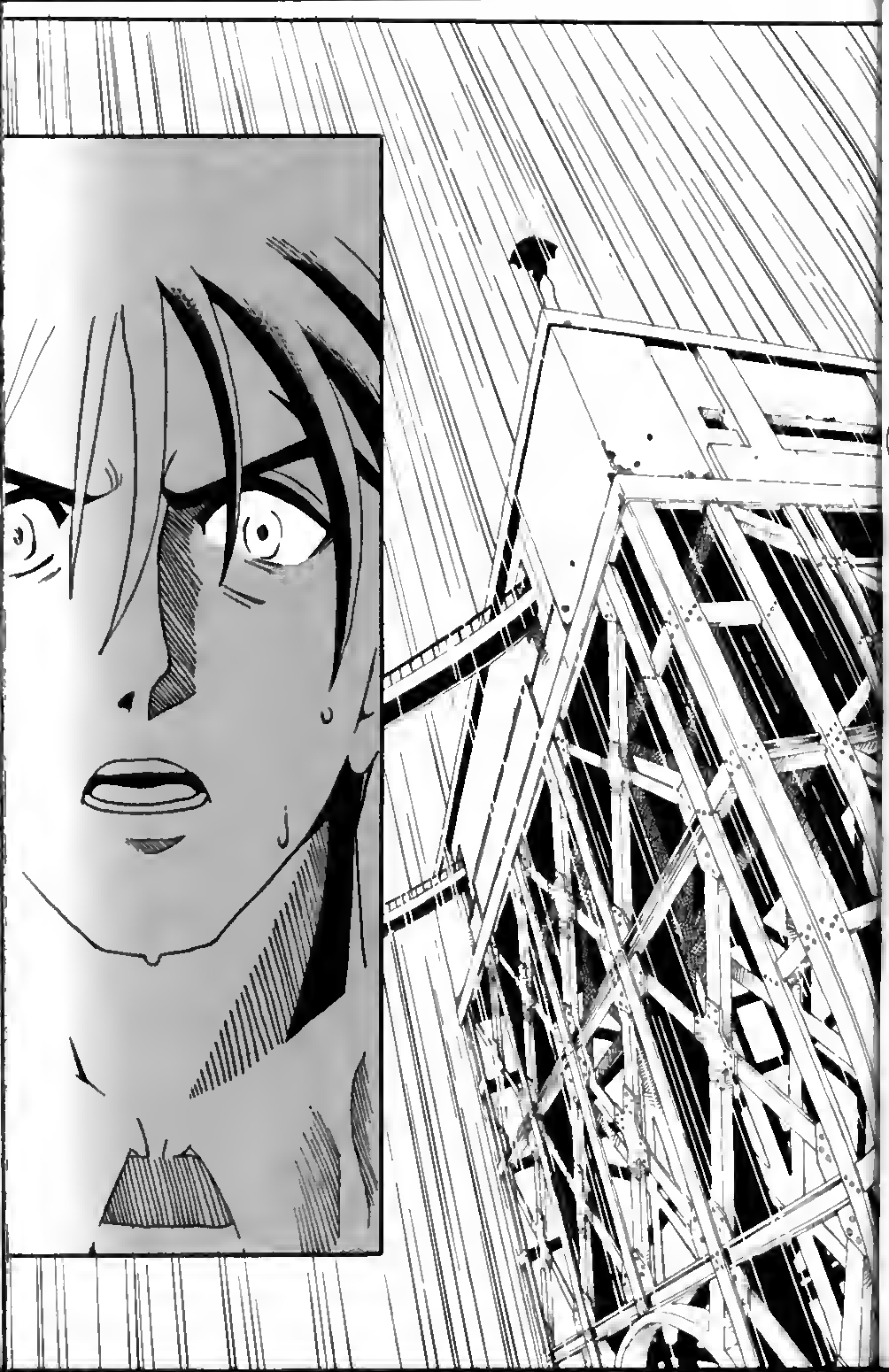

RRRMMBB
...WHERE ARE YOU GOING?
BIG O...?
RRRMMBB
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
DID YOU COME TO GIVE ME A LECTURE?
NOT AT ALL.
YOU AND I... WE ACT OF OUR OWN VOLITION. BUT DON'T YOU FEEL AT TIMES THE PRESENCE OF A POWER BEYOND HUMAN UNDERSTANDING?
DO YOU KNOW WHAT THAT IS, ROGER SMITH?

IS THIS WHAT HAPPENED 40 YEARS AGO?
RAMMMBB
IS THIS HOW THE PART OF THE CITY UNDER PARADIGM HARBOR SANK BENEATH THE WAVES?

CONCENTRATE ON THE RESCUE EFFORT INSTEAD OF SCARING YOURSELF WITH WILD IMAGININGS.
UNLIKE INSIDE THE DOMES, THERE ARE A LOT OF PEOPLE OUT HERE WHO NEED OUR HELP.
RAMMMBBB
YES, SIR.
MAJOR, THERE'S SOMETHING AHEAD...
RRRRMMBBRR
...?!

SPLOOSH
KLANG
KLANG
KLANG
RE-TREAT!
WE'LL BE SWEPT AWAY!

KAN-
BIG O...
ARE YOU TELLING ME TO FIGHT?
BUT... I'M NOT SURE I SEE THE POINT ANYMORE...
KAN-
KAN-
KAN-



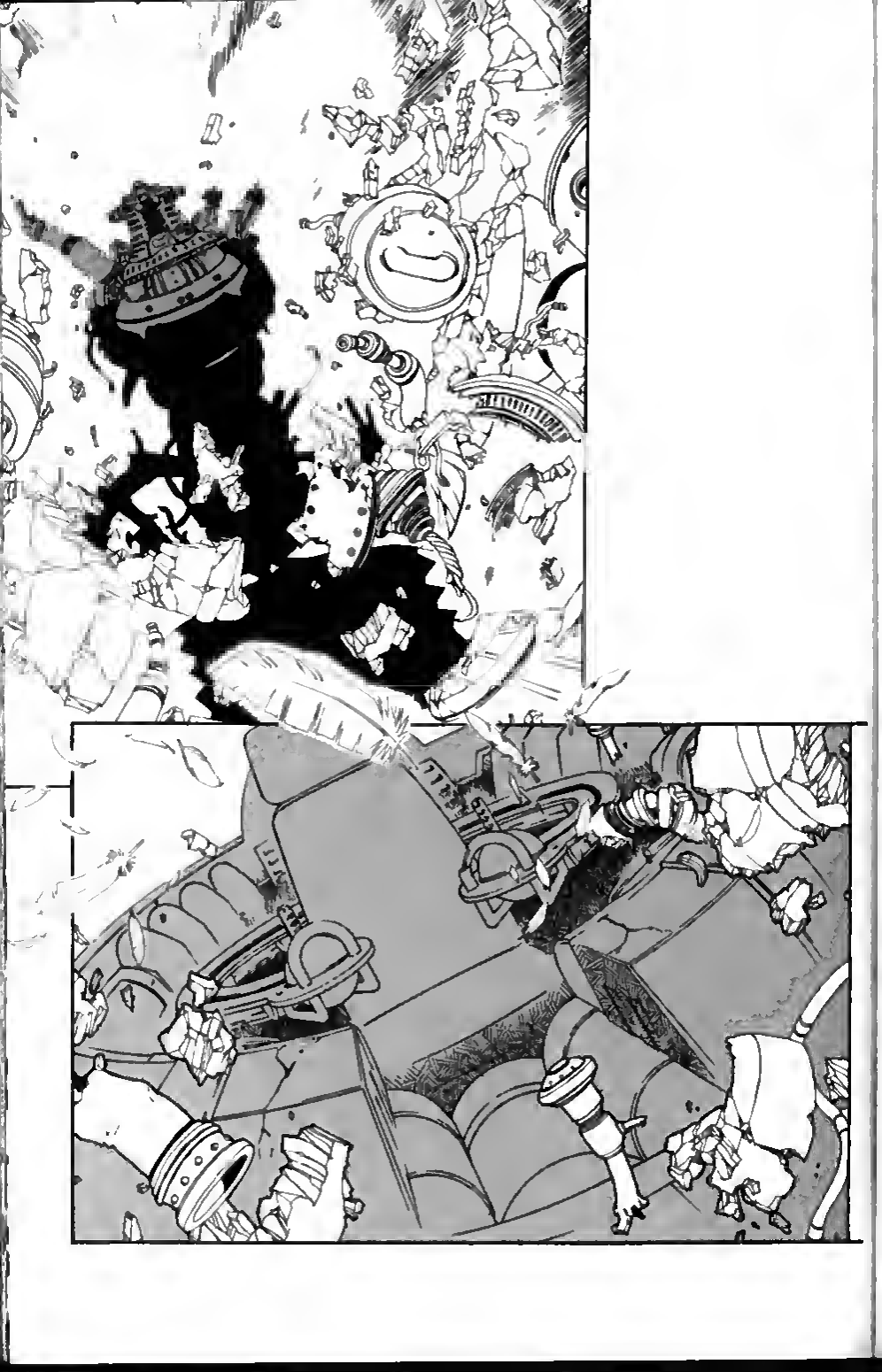
SHOOP

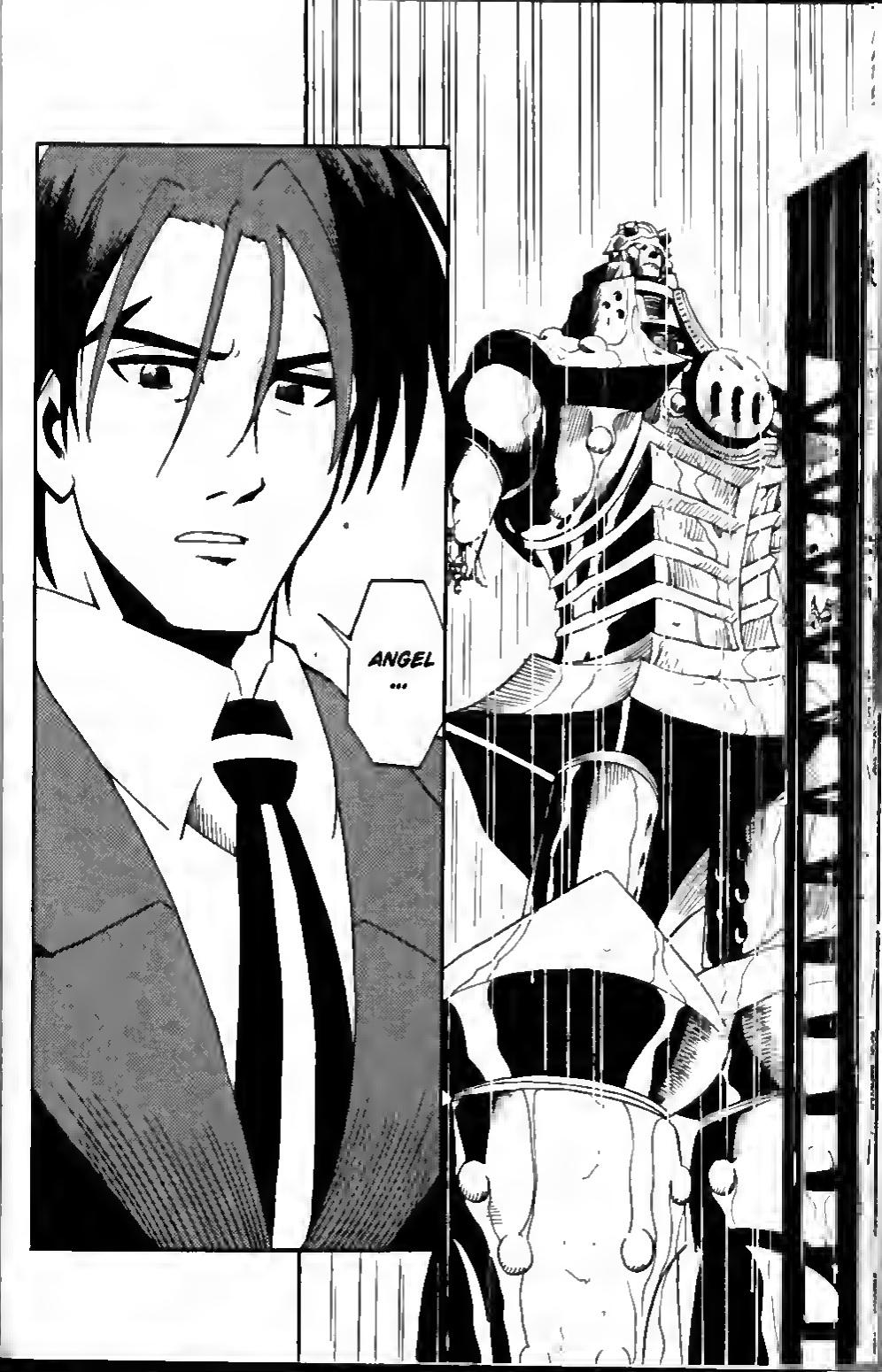
...!
BIG O...
IS THIS WHAT YOU WANT?
I... UNDERSTAND...

KABOOM

oosh
BARR

KOSE
NHAM
NHAM

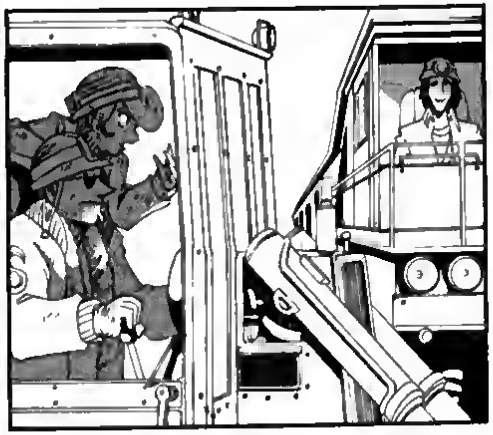



ANGEL
...

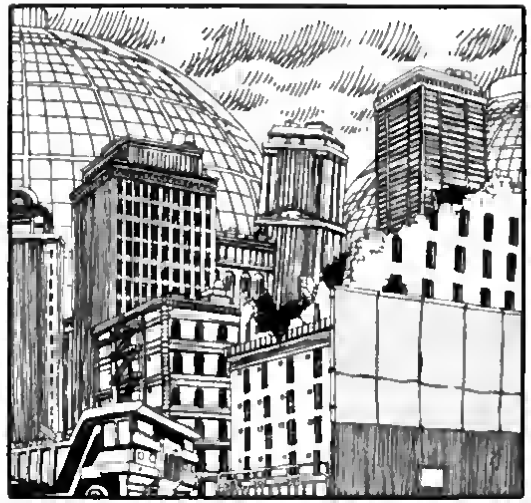
THIS IS PARADIGM CITY, A CITY WITHOUT A PAST. FORTY YEARS AGO SOMETHING HAPPENED AND THE SUN STOPPED SHINING.

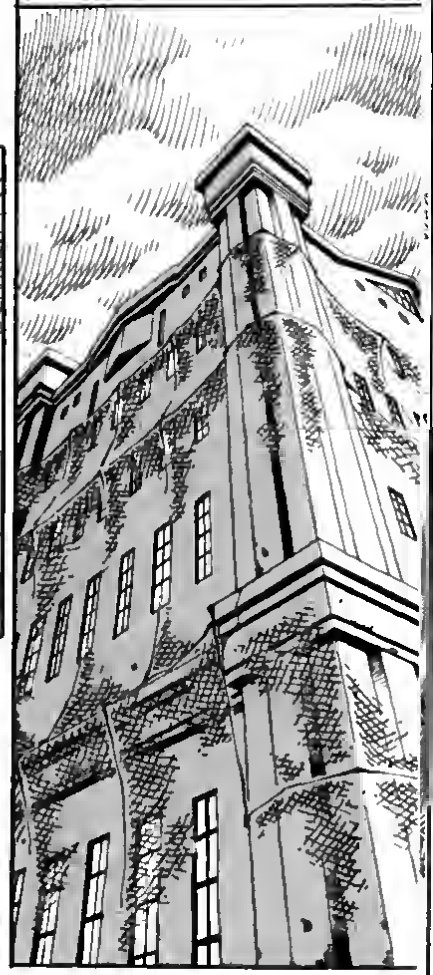
BUT MAYBE IF WE HAVE FAITH THE SUN WILL RISE AGAIN.

PEOPLE CAN STILL GO ON NO MATTER WHAT'S IN THE PAST... THAT'S WHAT I'D ALWAYS THOUGHT... BUT MAYBE I WAS FOOLING MYSELF WITH THOSE WORDS.

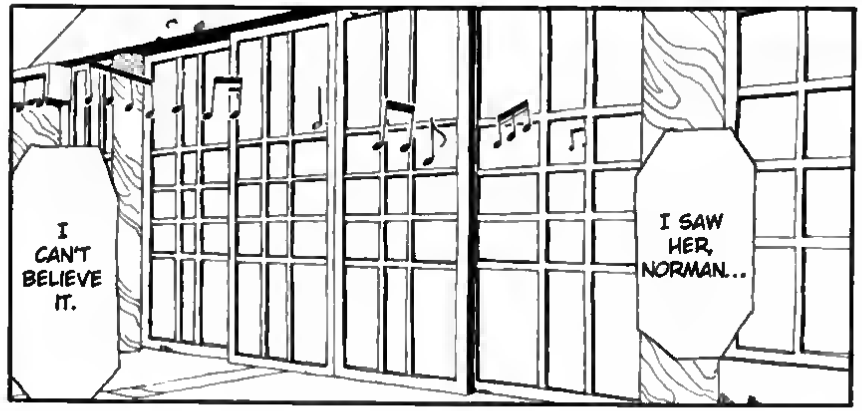


WHAT'S THE FUTURE WITHOUT HOPE?



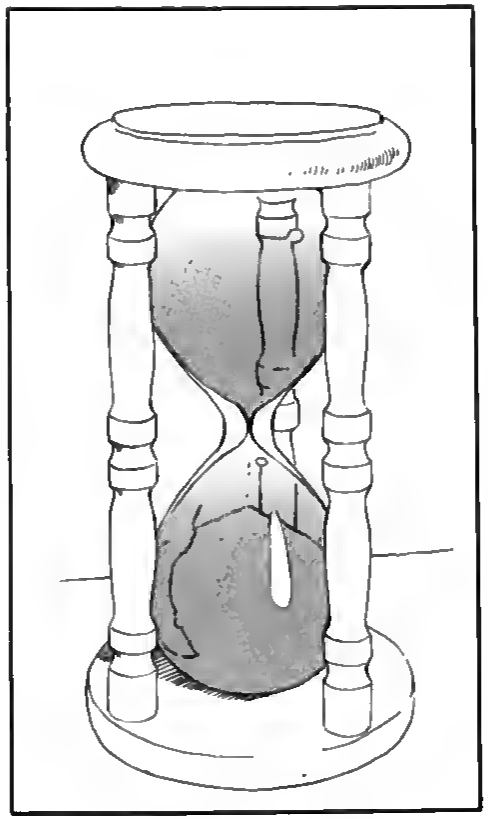


PEOPLE FIND THEIR WAY TO WHERE THEY SHOULD BE.



DOROTHY WALKED THERE ON HER OWN.
I HADN'T EVEN GIVEN HER A NEW MEMORY DISK.
THE TECHNOLOGY FROM 40 YEARS AGO STILL HOLDS MANY SECRETS.
TOMP
SHE TOLD ME ONE TIME...
...THAT SHE WOULD NEVER FORGET ME BECAUSE SHE'S AN ANDROID.
AND BECAUSE SHE IS AN ANDROID...

SHE COULDN'T TELL A LIE...



ROGER...

THE END.

Volume-end manga file

"And the Sun Will Rise Again Today"

The clumsy Tao of manga for an anonymous manga artist

2001 11 有賀ヒトシ HITOSHI ARIGA

THE WINTER OF '98, I HAD STRAYED FROM MANGA FOR VARIOUS REASONS.
I PAID MY BILLS WITH GAME DESIGN.
I WAS OFFERED THE BIG O AS A TITLE IN A NEW MAGAZINE.
THE ANIME WAS SUPPOSED TO AIR ON WOWOW IN AUTUMN '99.
I FELT SUCH NOSTALGIA UPON LOOKING AT THE PRODUCTION SHEETS.
I LOVE RETRO MECHA STUFF...
I STARTED THE SERIAL AS I WAS STILL WORKING OUT THE ART STYLE AND DIRECTION I WANTED TO TAKE.
MR. KATAYAMA AND MR. SATO TOLD ME TO DO WHATEVER I WANTED, BUT I TRIED TO DO WHAT I'D NEVER DONE BEFORE, AND FLOUNDERED AS A RESULT.
HMM
ARGH...
I WENT TO THE PREVIEW FOR ANIME EPISODE 1 WHILE I WAS WORKING ON EPISODE 4 OF THE MANGA.
THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME I SAW ROGER AND BIG O IN MOTION, AND I WAS AMAZED AT THE PRODUCTION VALUES.
THEY HAD ONLY GIVEN ME THE ROUGH DRAFTS FOR DOROTHY AT THIS POINT, SO I WAS DRAWING HER FROM MY OWN IMAGINATION.
WHEN I SAW HER MOVING AND TALKING, SHE BECAME A MUCH MORE INTERESTING CHARACTER.
I WAS SO ENVIOUS AT THE WONDER OF ANIME SO I WAS DETERMINED TO DO WHAT ONLY MANGA COULD DO.
GRR
THEY LET ME CONTINUE THE MANGA AFTER THE ANIME ENDED, SO I WAS GIVEN A LOT OF FREE REIN.
KUCHEE
I'M GRATEFUL TO MY EDITORS AND SUNRISE FOR PUTTING UP WITH MY UNREASONABLE STORIES.
I TOOK A SURVEY OF MY ASSISTANTS TO USE FOR THEIR PAGES.
Q1: WHAT WAS THE MOST MEMORABLE PART THAT YOU WORKED ON?
Q2: ANY MEMORIES OF THE WORKPLACE?
Q3: GIVE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF ARIGA.
SO THIS IS THE LAST VOLUME OF THE BIG O.
MY SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL WHO HELPED ME PRODUCE THIS SELF-INDULGENT MANGA... AND I'M HAPPY THAT I WAS ABLE TO BE A PART OF YOUR LIVES.
END

I HOPE WE MEET AGAIN ON ANOTHER TITLE.

ASSISTANT PAGE

THE LAST EPISODE?

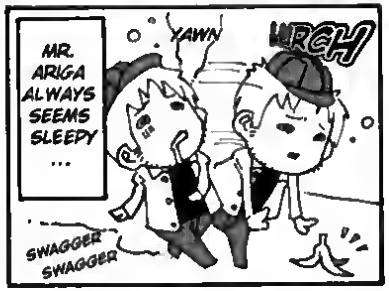
HERE ARE MY ANSWERS!

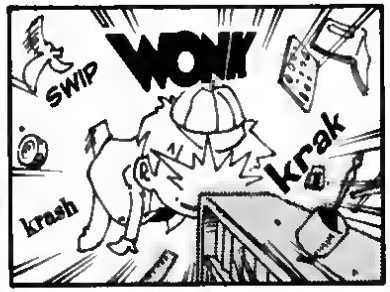
A1: THE BIRD PEOPLE FROM VOL.5. WEREN'T THEY CUTE?

A2: I WAS ALMOST SNIPED (BY AN AIR GUN) WHEN I WAS ABOUT TO GO OUT TO GET DINNER.

A3: I THINK MOST OF HIS BRAIN IS OCCUPIED BY THOUGHTS OF GUNDAM. AND THE REST BY DINOSAURS.

TAKAMI NAKAMI 2001





I'M SORRY, MR. ARIGA. GOOD JOB ON A WORK WELL DONE!

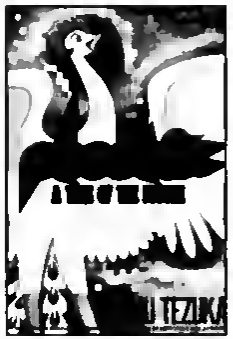
Editor's Recommendations

Can't get enough Big O? Here are three more books the editor recommends:

Phoenix: Dawn
Both a science-fiction thrill ride and an apocalyptic cautionary tale, Osamu Tezuka's epic tale of birth, rebirth and redemption starts here.

© 2004 Tezuka Production

Phoenix: A Tale of the Future
Tezuka is widely regarded as one of the greatest comics storytellers of all time. In this volume he takes readers to the future... all the way to the end of time.



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Phoenix: Yamato/Space
Don't miss out on these continuing **Phoenix** books. Possibly the best comic book series you'll ever read. Highly recommended.

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action

THE BATTLE BETWEEN GOOD AND EVIL

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- Basterd!!
- Battle Angel Alita
- The Big O
- Oh Oh Charet
- Excel Saga
- Firefighter! Daigo of Fire Company M
- Flame of Recca
- Gundam
- Inu-Yasha •
- Neon Genesis Evangelion
- Project Arms •
- Ranma 1/2 •
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